

## 200 injured in Prague explosion

PRAGUE (R) — About 200 people, including four children, were injured when a bomb-making device exploded in central Prague Saturday, six days before Czechoslovakia held free elections in 44 years. "There are at least 12 people who were taken to hospital but several others went by themselves to receive medical treatment," said police officer Jan Jasek, who said after the blast in a city subway station square, "Rehman Salma, head of the Prague emergency services, said about 20 people had been injured, among them several children and one teenager. Most were suffering from facial injuries but the伤者, a woman, had a serious eye injury, said Salma, quoted by the state news agency CTK. He did not give the伤者的 nationality. There was no immediate indication who was responsible for the explosion. Jasek said the device, a metal tube about 50 centimeters long, scattered powder and shrapnel all over the square, which was filled with Saturday morning traffic.

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## More candidates quit Kuwait polls

KUWAIT (R) — Eleven candidates withdrew Saturday from elections for a Kuwaiti national assembly, leaving 395 to vote for 50 seats in the June 10 voting, the official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said. A total of 172 candidates have withdrawn since registration closed May 9. The emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, will appoint 25 of the members of the 75-seat house. A group of former deputies have urged the country's estimated 65,000-strong, all-male electorate to boycott the polls, arguing that the house will be tame and unconstitutional. It also wants the return of a parliament dissolved in 1986 by the emir, who cited a foreign conspiracy to destabilize the country at the height of the 1980-88 Iraq-Iran war. The government says the assembly will not be a permanent substitute for the dissolved house and that its chief mandate will be to consider the future of democracy in the country. Several candidates have adopted this view in their election platforms. "Let us make the national assembly a crossing point to the Majlis Al Umma (parliament)," one declared in a newspaper advertisement.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جريدة الأردن تأسن جريدة عربية مستقلة نشرت من قبل مؤسسة الأردن للنشر والتوزيع

## U.N.-mission holds talks in Egypt

CAIRO (R) — A U.N. team investigating human rights in the Israeli-occupied territories held talks Saturday with Egyptian Foreign Minister Emam Abdul Meguid. The committee, appointed by the U.N. General Assembly in 1988, is investigating Israeli practices affecting the human rights of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. Committee Chairman Daya Perera of Sri Lanka told reporters the team would hold hearings with Palestinians in Cairo Saturday and Sunday. He said the committee had already visited Syria and Jordan and will report to the General Assembly on its tour. Israel has consistently refused to allow the committee to visit the occupied territories.

## Kohl to meet Bush in U.S.

BONN (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will meet President George Bush in Washington next week to discuss this week's U.S.-Soviet summit. The four-day visit, announced by Kohl's office Saturday, will be his second trip to the U.S. capital in two weeks. He leaves West Germany Tuesday and will address the American Council on Germany in New York that evening. Kohl will travel to Cambridge, Massachusetts, to give the commencement address at Harvard University Thursday and will meet Bush at the White House Friday. In Washington, Kohl will be briefed on details of Bush's summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, in which the question of a future united Germany was discussed.

## Lesotho king plans to return home

MESERU, (AP) — Lesotho's King Moshoeshoe II, forced into exile three months ago by the military government, said he has no money and plans to return to his tiny southern African nation, according to reports Saturday. The head of the ruling military council, Justin Lekhanya, did not say how he would respond if the king tries to come back. However, Lekhanya harshly attacked the king in a radio broadcast Saturday and accused the monarch of maintaining huge accounts in local and foreign banks. King Moshoeshoe II left Lesotho for Britain in March, three weeks after the military council stripped him of all his powers. The military council came to power in a 1986 coup and ruled Lesotho in consultation with the king, but the two parties had no increasing number of disputes in the past year over how to run the country.

## Old guard camp protests in E. Berlin

EAST BERLIN (AP) — Thousands of supporters of the old Communist Party demonstrated in the East German capital Saturday to protest the government's decision to take control of the party's assets. The peaceful protest in the city centre drew about 10,000 people, the government news agency ADN said. The group was protesting the decision by parliament Thursday to freeze the vast holdings of the party pending an investigation of their value and legitimacy. The former Communists assessed perhaps billions of marks in houses, businesses and property during their four decades in power. The regime was ousted in October, but its members and affiliated organisations still have vast holdings.

## IRA claims attack

LODGE (R) — The Irish Republican Army (IRA) claimed responsibility on Saturday for killing two British soldiers in attacks in West Germany and at an English railway station. "Active service units of the Irish Republican Army carried out two separate operations against British military personnel in England and West Germany last night," said a statement issued by the IRA in Dublin. "While British troops remain in Ireland such attacks will continue," said the IRA, which is fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland (see earlier story on page 8).

## King thanks Iraq for assistance; further Gulf aid expected this week

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday thanked Iraq for granting Jordan \$50 million in financial aid and described the Iraqi gesture as an embodiment of altruism and as a great deed that will always be remembered and cherished by all Jordanians.

Iraq Friday formally notified Jordan that it would give the Kingdom \$50 million in financial aid this year and said it was studying financial assistance to the Kingdom for 1991.

"In my own name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government, and in expression of deep gratitude, I send you and the Iraqi people greetings and affection and appreciation for your generous gesture of support for Jordan," King Hussein said in a message to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"Your decision to grant Jordan \$50 million in 1990, despite the present circumstances through which Iraq is going, is something we all realize can only be interpreted as an embodiment of altruism and a great deed that is a source of pride for us and precious to our hearts and conscience," the King said in his message carried by the Jordan News

Agency, Petra.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran was meanwhile quoted as saying that Jordan would receive financial assistance from the Arab Gulf states this week as agreed at the Baghdad summit. Radio Monte Carlo also quoted the prime minister as saying that the amounts were not known yet.

"The Arab leaders have realized that Jordan's security and stability cannot be separated from the Iraqi assistance is cherished by Jordan a great treasure because it carries sublime meaning in service of the great principles of the Arab Nation," the King said.

"I would like to assure my brother the president that the Iraqi assistance is cherished by Jordan a great treasure because it carries sublime meaning in service of the great principles of the Arab Nation," the King said.

"Your keenness on being the first among the Arab leaders to offer financial assistance to Jordan in expression of Iraq's concern for and national commitment to defending this country in the face of dangerous is met by a firm commitment on the part of the Jordanian people who are determined to remain steadfast and totally committed to the Arab cause and who will honour the covenant binding of the Arab Nation.

The Jordanians will never let down their Arab brothers; but will rather shoulder the sacred trust and serve their nation with pride."

## Agreements signed on arms cuts, trade, energy and cultural cooperation

## Superpowers tackle German unity, regional conflicts

CAMP DAVID, Maryland (Agencies) — Presidents George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev got down to unfinished summit business like German unity and regional disputes Saturday amid oak groves and breezes of this mountainside hideaway where diplomatic magic sometimes happens.

"The most important thing today is we're going to discuss the global flashpoints," a relaxed-looking Gorbachev told reporters as he and the U.S. president arrived and a U.S. navy sailor piped them aboard in the traditional Camp David greeting.

They looked oddly formal in business suits and ties but their mood was not.

"We're in a totally relaxed environment here today," Bush said before the two leaders and their wives, Raisa and Barbara, rode off aboard golf carts towards Aspen Lodge and a day of talks. Bush and the Soviet president, who signed an array of arms control, trade and other accords Friday, flew in together aboard Bush's "Marine One" presidential helicopter and clearly hoped the transition from Washington's public glare to a rustic compound 100 kilometers away would be a tonic for them.

Raiza and Barbara flew by separate helicopter.

The Bush-Gorbachev helicopter ride included one remarkable touch of irony: One of their companions, Air Force Major Bruce Coughlin, had strapped his wrist the doomsday briefcase containing the codes Bush would need to launch nuclear war against the Soviet Union or anyone else.

The "nuclear football," as it is called, goes everywhere with the U.S. president. Gorbachev was accompanied by one Soviet bodyguard.

In a sign of the warming personal chemistry between Bush and Gorbachev, already evident at this summit, the two announced the Gorbachevs would stay two hours longer than scheduled and dine with the Bushes here.

Bush gets away to Camp David whenever he can and has said that if he can establish a special relationship with Gorbachev anywhere it is here, against a backdrop of sun-dappled forests and

birdsong. They will need all the rapport they can muster to make any headway on U.S.-Soviet disputes over inclusion of a united Germany in NATO and Moscow's crackdown on Lithuania.

Although aides did not list those topics among the agenda items, it was certain they would not pass up an opportunity to review such dominant and unresolved summit topics.

Here, at a glance, are the U.S.-Soviet agreements announced Friday by Bush and Gorbachev at a White House ceremony:

A "framework" accord on the major elements of a strategic arms reduction treaty, or START, to reduce each side's arsenal of long-range nuclear weapons by about one-third over a seven-year period.

Commitment to completing START by year's end and to wind up another treaty on reducing conventional forces in Europe by the end of this year.

An accord ending production of U.S. and Soviet chemical weapons and eliminating all but 5,000 tons of their existing chemical stockpiles. The deal is meant as catalyst for a global agreement to ban production and possession of these weapons.

A trade agreement that would move to superpowers closer to normal commercial relations, but would not grant trade concessions until the Soviets pass a free emigration law.

A protocol spelling out anti-cheating measures for existing treaties that limit nuclear tests. The verification protocol will permit both nations to ratify the 1974 threshold test ban treaty and the 1976 peaceful nuclear explosions treaty, which limit U.S. and Soviet underground nuclear tests to 150 kilotons.

An agreement expanding commercial air travel between the United States and the Soviet Union by adding four American and six Soviet cities to current airliners to run the routes.

A new five-year atomic energy agreement to provide closer cooperation in nuclear reactor safety, fusion energy and basic atomic science.

A grain deal committing the Soviets to buying at least 10

million tons annually, starting next year, of U.S. wheat, feed grains and soybeans. That is an increase of one million tons annually from a current agreement that took effect in 1983.

A maritime transportation pact to make it easier for U.S. and Soviet commercial vessels to deliver goods to ports in one another's country.

An agreement to open reciprocal cultural and information centres in Washington and Moscow.

The first government-to-government agreement to increase student exchanges between the two countries.

U.S. Middle East policy

The United States has been working long and hard to foster a dialogue in the region that would bring peace," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said when he was asked about Gorbachev's reported statements on Capitol Hill Friday that the Middle East peace process should be internationalized and the Soviet Union should be brought into the peace process.

The five committees elected Saturday and their office-bearers are:

General Framework Committee — Chairman Ahmad Obaidat (who is also head of the General Commission), and Rapporteur Ibrahim Bakr;

Education and Culture Committee — Chairman Abdul Salam Al Majali, Rapporteur Fawzi Tuameh;

Pluralism and Sovereignty of Law Committee — Chairman Suleiman Hadidi, Rapporteur Taher Hikmat;

Economic and Social Committee — Chairman Khalil Al Saleem, Rapporteur Fawzi Gharabieh;

Jordanian National Security Committee — Chairman Hamad Farhan, Rapporteur Sultan Hattab.

The two committees which were delayed are: A committee on Jordanian-Palestinian relations, and a committee on Arab, Islamic and international affairs.

The heads and rapporteurs of the elected committees will meet Sunday to set dates for meetings of their respective panels.

## Royal Decree convenes Parliament

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Saturday convening Parliament in an extraordinary session as of Saturday, June 2, 1990, in accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of law 82 of the Constitution. The decree specified that the following laws be discussed by Parliament during the extraordinary session:

A draft defence law, 1990; Foreign investments draft law, 1990; Exports and Imports draft law, 1990; "Dealing with the enemy" draft law, 1990; An amendment to the military service and conscription draft law, 1990; An amendment to the penal code draft law, 1990; An amendment to the panel trial system draft law, 1990; Illegal profit draft law, 1990; Economic

and crimes draft law, 1990; An amendment to the Jordanian Universities Law, 1990; Temporary law number 20 for the year 1989 (an amendment to the higher education code); An amendment to the Higher Education Law, 1990; A draft for the protection of copyrights, 1990; Temporary law number 19 for the year 1989 (the public universities law); Temporary law number 34 for the year 1989 (care for the disabled); Temporary law number 11 for the year 1989 (the higher justice court); Temporary law number 28 for the year 1989 (the civil defense department); Temporary law number 31 for the year 1989 (the Islamic Sharia courts law); Temporary law number 35 for the year 1989 (an amendment of the Sharia courts system); Temporary law number 13 for the year 1989 (an amendment to the approp-

riation law); Temporary law 32 for the year 1988 (an amendment to the Amman Municipal Court); Temporary law number 39 for the year 1988 (an amendment to the Jordanian Engineers Association law); Temporary law number 2 for the year 1988 (axial weights);

In addition, the agenda for parliament, as stipulated in the decree includes: Discussing the issue of Soviet Jewish immigration; Discussing the economic policy in the fields of prices and unemployment; Discussing the information and educational policy; Discussing the issues referred to the Financial Committee of the Lower House of Parliament and discussing the report of the audit bureau for the years 1987/1988.

## Corruption case findings involving 'ministers' to go before House

AMMAN (Petra) — The office of the prosecutor-general will refer all documents and papers related to corruption cases involving serving or former ministers to the Lower House of Parliament, which can in turn level charges or refer those involved to trial, the prosecutor-general said Saturday.

Investigations into the cases are continuing and the procedure of submitting the findings will be taken in accordance with Article 56 of the Jordanian Constitution, Prosecutor-General Mohammad Farid Al Snadi said. He made the statement in the wake of a decision by the Higher Council, which interpreted Article 55 of the Constitution concerning the term "ministers" to mean serving and former ministers alike.

The prosecutor general's office will first complete investigation of those who are not classified under the "minister" category and will issue charges against those who will be proved to have committed violations of the law before referring them to civil courts for trial, Snadi said.

In accordance with Article 55 of the Constitution and the interpretation given by the Higher Council, the office of the prosecutor-general is not empowered to issue charges against ministers because this is the sole authority of the Lower House.

Snadi said that the Higher Council has two authorities; the first as stipulated in Article 55 of the Constitution, states: "Ministers could be tried before the Higher Council for involvement in crimes in the course of conducting their official duty;" the second authority empowers the Higher Council to interpret articles of the Constitution if asked to do so by the Council of Ministers or by the two Houses of Parliament.

Snadi said that he had received nine cases of corruption from the speaker of the Lower House on March 20, 1990 and had set up six committees to conduct investigations into the various cases. In

light of the available documents and statements, the office

of the prosecutor-general will refer all documents and papers related to corruption cases involving serving or former ministers to the Lower House of Parliament, which can in turn level charges or refer those involved to trial, the prosecutor-general said Saturday.

Upon this request the Cabinet

asked the Higher Council to issue an interpretation to Article 55, Snadi added. He said that on May 28, 1990 the Higher Council issued a resolution clearly stating that the term "ministers" means both serving and former ministers.

In the course of investigation

Palestinian frustration may lead to anti-U.S. attacks — Nusseibeh

## Jordan registers its position on U.S. veto

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Prime Minister Marwan Al Qusein Saturday informed the American ambassador of Jordan's view that Thursday's American veto of a United Nations Security Council resolution calling for a fact-finding mission to the occupied territories had negative impacts on the Middle East, an official source said. The source, quoted by the French news agency (AFP), said Qusein called in U.S. Ambassador Bruce Suddeth to the Foreign Ministry to convey the Jordanian position.

Nusseibeh, described by Israel as one of the heads behind the 30-month Palestinian uprising, said there was growing pressure from young Arab activists to step up violence against Israel.

"I believe more and more Palestinians will turn to using guns and explosives. I assume that the unified leadership will probably go with the people," said Nusseibeh, referring to the underground umbrella group of various factions coordinating the uprising.

Palestinian intellectual Seri Nusseibeh and the Arab in the occupied territories are rapidly losing hope that a peace settlement can be reached. He blamed hardline Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who has rejected U.S. proposals for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

"There is going to be a rapid deterioration into a cycle of bloodshed and violence," Nusseibeh told the Associated Press in a telephone interview Saturday.

Nusseibeh said he and others urging restraint were becoming increasingly isolated. Until now, the uprising leadership has ordered activists to stick to stones and firebombs, saying that the use of firearms would only give Israel an excuse to crack down harder.

Ahmad Obaidat  
Panel on national charter elects committees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The General Commission in charge of drafting the national charter met Saturday and elected five of its sub-committees, and postponed the election of two other panels pending the completion of work of the five committees.

The five committees elected Saturday and their office-bearers are:

General Framework Committee — Chairman Ahmad Obaidat (who is also head of the General Commission), and Rapporteur Ibrahim Bakr;

Education and Culture Committee — Chairman Abdul Salam Al Majali, Rapporteur Fawzi Tuameh;

Pluralism and Sovereignty of Law Committee — Chairman Suleiman Hadidi, Rapporteur Taher Hikmat;

Economic and Social Committee — Chairman Khalil Al Saleem, Rapporteur Fawzi Gharabieh;

Jordanian National Security Committee — Chairman Hamad Farhan, Rapporteur Sultan Hattab.

## Abbas apologises to Arafat, vows fresh attacks on Israel

**KUWAIT (AP)** — The leader of the Palestinian group which carried out an abortive raid on Israel says PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat did not know in advance about it and warned more more attacks will be launched against the Jewish state, the Al Watan daily reported Saturday.

"We vow to continue the struggle until the objective of our people's independence and liberation is achieved," Mohammad Abbas, head of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), was quoted as saying in an interview. "The daily did not say where he was interviewed."

"We mean what we say. This operation is the beginning of a combat effort against the Israeli enemy to match the upgrading of pan-Arab awareness," he said.

He declared that Wednesday's abortive seaborne raid "will certainly have profound effect" on the expected emigration of hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel over the next few years.

Abbas, also known as Abu Abbas, was the mastermind of the 1985 hijacking of the Italian cruise liner, Achille Lauro, in the Mediterranean.

The PLF wing led by Abbas is part of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. But it is not consi-

dered to be directly controlled by Arafat.

Abbas apologised to Arafat, whose nom de guerre is Abu Ammar, for not informing him in advance of Wednesday's attack in which four guerrillas were killed and 12 captured.

He said: "We're under no obligation to inform Abu Ammar beforehand about any operation. He's the No. 1 fighter and I think he knows well that violence breeds only violence."

Israel's Foreign Ministry has said Arafat knew about the raid beforehand. But Israeli military intelligence officials have said they doubt that.

The U.S. State Department, which opened talks with the PLO in December 1988 after Arafat renounced terrorism as part of a peace initiative, has warned that dialogue is in jeopardy unless Arafat condemns the PLF action.

Arafat has disassociated the PLF from the operation, but has

stopped short of condemning it outright.

Arafat also rejected Washington's demand that Abbas, a member of the PLO's ruling Executive Committee, be expelled from the movement.

He said that could only be done by the Palestine National Council.

Abbas said Arafat's reaction was "objective" and noted: "It's the PLO who has nothing to do with the operation."

He said he did not believe that Wednesday's attack was an embarrassment to Arafat at a time when he is talking to the United States.

Abbas argued that "the Americans should be embarrassed because they reached agreements with him 100 times and failed to honour their agreements."

He denied Israeli claims that Wednesday's operation was launched from Libya and said neither Libya nor Iraq were involved.

Abbas said the raid was "a message to the superpower summit — a two-fold message, that the Palestinian people are determined to continue their struggle until the liberation of Palestine and the achievement of independence, and that... they should be fully aware that the influx of Jews

into Palestine is a crime against Palestinian human rights."

He insisted that there were Israeli casualties in Wednesday's raid, despite Israel's claim it suffered none.

He said the raid was code-named "Operation Jerusalem" in response to the non-binding resolutions passed in recent weeks by the U.S. Congress and Senate deeming Jerusalem as Israel's "eternal capital."

But he said the May 20 massacre of seven Palestinian workers by an Israeli gunman near Tel Aviv was the main factor in the timing of the attack which had been planned for two years and cost \$3 million.

He linked it as well to Israel's failure to respond to the PLO's peace overtures and Washington's support for the Jewish state.

"I want to ask where is peace?" he said, referring to the 30-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Is it attacking our mosques and churches? Is it subjugation to Israel and the United States? This is submission rather than peace," he said.

"The PLO has been preaching peace for two years, until peace has become capitulation."

## Arab papers call for economic boycott of U.S.

**NICOSIA (R)**

— Arab commentators, angered by the U.S. veto of a U.N. Security Council resolution to send a fact-finding mission to Israeli-occupied areas, called Saturday for an economic boycott of America.

"The Arabs should adopt a final attitude towards the U.S. based on stopping economic dealings with Washington, including banning American companies and banks from operating in Arab countries," said Qatar's Al-Raya newspaper.

"All imports from America, topped by weapons and planes, should stop."

"By doing so we will lose nothing except an enemy fighting us with all means and harming our interests, while America will lose much because it will find no substitute for our investments in its companies and banks," it said.

Fourteen of the 15 Security Council members voted Thursday to send a three-member commission to the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to recommend ways to protect Palestinians but the U.S. veto overrode their votes.

Resort to the U.N. followed the murder of seven Gaza Strip Arabs by an Israeli described as "deranged" and an ensuing escalation in the 29-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule.

The Jordanian newspaper Al-Rai said the veto was tantamount to a "green light to the aggressors to commit more crimes."

"It also demonstrates American insistence on preventing the

murder of occupied territories, would have discovered shameful acts committed by the Israeli authorities against human rights advocated by the U.S."

Abu Dhabi's Al Ittihad said the vote "opens the door for more Israeli aggression which is not far off."

"Our retaliation will be the best Arab veto against the American veto."

## EC repeats call for international conference

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — the European Community (EC) Saturday condemned new acts of violence in the Middle East and appealed again for an international conference and peace settlement.

The twelve EC nations also repeated their determination to encourage all efforts to promote a dialogue leading to a comprehensive settlement in the framework of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisa-

tion.

The EC called for U.S. action to protect the population of the occupied Arab territories and pledged continued contribution to its economic and social development.

## U.S. will be responsible if Israel attacks — Libya

"changed most of their positions in the past 48 hours to avoid Israeli air strikes."

Palestinian guerrillas were ordered to "evacuate their offices and spread out in the fields and valleys," the source said.

Israel has held the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) responsible for Wednesday's raid.

The Israeli army believes technical deficiencies, including the slowness of its naval patrol boats, allowed the 11 Palestinian gunmen to land on an Israeli beach crowded with bathers, Israel TV said Friday.

Israeli Chief of Staff Dan Shomron, in a television interview, admitted at least one glitch in the handling of the assault.

"Yes, it (the commandos' speedboat) beat the (navy) patrol boat," he said. He refused to give further details of the army's investigation of the close-call.

"I'm not ready to volunteer to the terrorists (who) are just waiting and listening to us in order to learn," he said.

The operations of Israel's army, navy and air force Wednesday left many unanswered questions, including whether Israel had advance knowledge of the sea raid.

Former Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the army had known for months that an attack was being prepared in Libya.

"The army refused to say when Israel first learned that the complex Palestinian sea raid was underway. But questions were being asked why security forces did not evacuate the bathers from Nitzanim before the speedboat hit the beach."

## Hizbullah links fate of Britons to Rushdie's expulsion

**BEIRUT (R)** — A Hizbullah leader Saturday repeated his call for Britain to expel author Salman Rushdie as a way of speeding the release of British hostages in Lebanon.

"The freedom of one of the British hostages could be the price of Britain's decision to expel Salman Rushdie," Hussein Musawi told the international television news agency Viewnews.

"We advise the British government to think how to expel Salman Rushdie... this act would of course have very positive impact on the issue of the British hostages," said Musawi, who made two similar statements earlier this week.

He is a senior official in Hizbullah (Party of God), believed to be holding most of the 15 Western hostages in Lebanon. Three are Britons — Terry Waite, John McCarthy and Jack Mann.

Musawi said a possible unofficial visit to Tehran by British members of parliament to discuss the fate of the Britons could yield positive results "if they follow the right method."

Lebanese kidnappers in April released two Americans who had been held more than three years.

They described the decision as a goodwill gesture.

"We wish to warn of the consequences of maintaining mis-

## Saudi Arabia warns Iran against misleading campaigns

**NICOSIA (R)** — Saudi Arabia has warned Tehran against misleading campaigns and reiterated Iran was preventing its nationals from performing the Muslim pilgrimage due to economic difficulties.

An official source said in a statement on Friday night Iranian information media and certain officials "are persisting in their misleading campaigns... claiming the kingdom is preventing Iranians from making the pilgrimage."

The statement, carried by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA), said: "If the Iranian government cannot permit Iranians to perform the pilgrimage due to economic or financial reasons, it should at least keep quiet rather than blame the kingdom for the ban."

This prompted Saudi Arabia to introduce a quota system cutting the number of Iranian pilgrims by more than two-thirds to about 45,000.

## Many Algerians indifferent to elections

**CONSTANTINE, Algeria (R)** — In the packed cafe patronised by fans of Algeria's oldest soccer team, Club Sportif Constantinois (CSC), Karim knocked back a soft drink and said he could not care less about his country's first free elections this month.

"Why should I vote? It's not going to change anything. Is it going to help me get a job?" asked the 23-year-old unemployed youth whose generation has been hard hit by Algeria's economic crisis.

Many Algerians have greeted the campaign for the June 12 municipal and provincial elections with profound indifference. They do not see how the emerging multi-party democracy will help them overcome pressing problems — lack of jobs, housing and consumer goods.

They are also sceptical of an electoral process that for 28 years since independence from France has been entirely controlled by the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

"The FLN is going to win anyway," said Karim cynically. In the crumbling old city of Constantine, capital of the Algerian east, walls of Turkish-era houses are covered with slogans and acronyms but they have nothing to do with politics.

"Long live CSC," is the most

common — the team, founded under French rule in 1986, has been doing well this season. The battle that really seems to interest Constantine men is that between the CSC and its traditional rival, Mouloudia Olympique de Constantine (MOC), which has been in its own cafe a few doors away.

Opposition parties and candidates with the exception of the powerful Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) have been handicapped by lack of financial means, voter apathy and inexperience.

"The campaign is dead. It's very surprising. We were expecting a real clash of ideas, healthy and peaceful but intense. This has not happened," said Abdul Hamid Ibn Hamla, spokesman for an independent list called "free youth."

Mayoral candidate Riad Bencheikh Al Feggoum fears voters will simply stay home.

"We are heading for a 50 per cent abstention rate. It's a population that has been marginalised for too long, the 18-30 age group that constitutes a majority of the population. Nobody really has a message able to get through to them," he said.

Campaign posters and candidate lists did not even appear until several days after the official start of the campaign on May 21. They have since been systematically

slashed and torn — mostly by rival activists, but it part by alienated youths who resent the whole process.

Multi-party democracy, launched last year after October 1988 youths riots, is still so new that candidates sometimes feel awkward about standing on street corners or addressing rallies.

"Candidates are sometimes reluctant to go out and shake hands. This whole thing is a new experience for us," said independent candidate Souad Bendjaballah.

Tens of thousands of demonstrators marched through Algiers pressing for a "true democracy" in the latest in a series of demonstrations before June 12 municipal elections.

The peaceful demonstration was called by the head of the Socialist Forces Front, Hocine Ait Ahmad, it attracted above all Berber-speaking citizens of the Kabyle regions, and their signs calling for "real democracy" and "linguistic pluralism" was written in Berber.

The official did not say whether the 160 kilometre waterway, flowing into the northern Gulf, was ready to take shipping.

The waterway was a major cause of the war and has been a bone of contention since a 1988 ceasefire. Iran says the border runs down the middle, while Baghdad insists in runs along the Iranian bank.

Dredgers have also cleared 130 smaller rivers and streams nearby, the official Iraqi News Agency quoted the head of the Al Faw Company for Irrigation Projects as saying.

The official did not say whether the 160 kilometre waterway, flowing into the northern Gulf, was ready to take shipping.

The waterway was a major cause of the war and has been a bone of contention since a 1988 ceasefire. Iran says the border runs down the middle, while Baghdad insists in runs along the Iranian bank.

When fighting started ships were sunk in the waterway and barbed wire and mines made it a no-go area. Iran has said it wants Iraqi troops to pull out of several hundred square miles of its territory before it will agree to reopen mainly in Berber.

Previous marches, by the Islamic Salvation Front on April 20, the "democrats" on May 10 and the ruling National Liberation Front on May 17, drew more than 100,000 people.

## Iraq dredges 90% of waterway

**BAGHDAD (R)** — Iraq said Saturday it had dredged 90 per cent of the important Shatt Al Arab Waterway, disputed with Iran and closed to shipping since the Gulf war started in 1980.

Dredgers have also cleared 130 smaller rivers and streams nearby, the official Iraqi News Agency quoted the head of the Al Faw Company for Irrigation Projects as saying.

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Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Suleiman Arar Saturday meets with a group of European parliamentarians (Petra photo)

## European parliamentarians briefed on refugee situation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seven-member group representing the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation (PAEAC) has started a 10-day tour of countries in the Middle East at the invitation of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to examine the condition of Palestinian refugees and discuss Middle East issues with government officials in Jordan, Israel and Syria.

The group's first stop was Amman where they met Saturday with Director of the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department, Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, who briefed the group members on the situation in the region and the general conditions of refugees.

Qatanani explained the existing cooperation between UNRWA and the Jordanian government in providing assistance to the refugees in Jordan and urged the international community to donate more funds to the agency to help it carry out its humanitarian services to the refugees in its fields of operations.

Qatanani referred to the situation in the Israeli-held Arab

territories, pointing out Israel's continued human rights violations which have negative consequences on the Palestinian people in general and the refugees in particular.

"Israel's pursuit of its Jewish settlement programmes in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is endangering world peace and its absorption of large numbers of Soviet Jewish immigrants is bound to perpetuate Zionist occupation of Arab homeland," Qatanani said.

Qatanani briefed the visiting delegation, led by Senator Jean-Michel Dumont of Belgium, on his department's responsibilities and the assistance it provides to the people in the occupied West Bank.

Following the meeting with Qatanani, the European group met with Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Suleiman Arar to review the situation in the Middle East and Europe's efforts to bring about peace in the region.

The group members are scheduled to go to the West Bank Sunday to meet UNRWA operations centres and inspect its services to the Palestinian refugees before returning to Jordan on Wednesday to visit Baqaa refugee camp and then go to Damascus.

## CAEU appeals to members to fulfil financial commitment

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Saturday issued an appeal to the Arab countries to honour their commitments to the council and to work seriously towards reviving the Arab common market.

"The CEAU is in financial difficulties resulting from failure on the part of several Arab states to pay their commitments to the council's budget and this failure has obstructed the council's work and delayed important services to help bring about Arab economic integration," said CEAU's Secretary-General Hassan Ibrahim in a statement marking the council's 26th anniversary.

"The CEAU is in need of support from Arab countries to help resolve numerous economic issues in Arab countries and also to help bring about the aspired integration," said Ibrahim in his

statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Last March Kuwait announced that it was leaving the council because, it said, the latter had rejected several proposals for improvements. Kuwait had previously covered nearly one third of the council's annual budget, but had failed to pay its dues for the past four years and now owes more than \$1.5 million.

Ibrahim in March issued a statement appealing to Kuwait to remain the council member and pledged to introduce all the changes as suggested by Kuwait.

"As a first step the CEAU was restructuring its management system by cutting the salaries of its employees by up to 25 per cent and reducing the number of staff also by 25 per cent. In addition the council's annual budget will be cut to \$1.15 million down from

\$3.5 million, Ibrahim said.

Apart from working towards the implementation of an Arab common market, the Amman-based CEAU has been exerting efforts in coordinating development plans of individual Arab countries in the formulation of measures leading to a customs union subject to a unified administration, market and commodity studies, unification of statistical terminology and methods of data collection, studies for the formation of new joint Arab companies and federations, formulation of specific programmes for agricultural and industrial coordination and for improving road and railway networks.

The CEAU has also succeeded in creating several multilateral organisations in industry and agriculture and has set up several Arab unions and federations.

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### Badran condoles Abu Ragheb, Hamarsheh families

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Saturday visited Abu Al Ragheb family to offer condolences on the death of Issa Hassan Abu Al Ragheb. Badran Saturday also visited Al Hamarsheh family to offer condolences on the death of the wife of Mirweh Amis Al Hamarsheh.

### Dugmhi receives outgoing envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Karim Al Dugmhi received Saturday the Swedish Ambassador to Jordan Lars Lomback at the end of his tour of duty. Lomback said he would work on strengthening cooperation between Jordan and Sweden in the field of conservation of nature in his new post as the Swedish foreign ministry. The meeting reviewed the prospect of helping Jordan establish a garbage processing plant.

### Rotarians brief Al Zaben on activity

AMMAN (J.T.) — The "Polipolis" committee of the Jordan Rotary Club visited Minister of Health Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben Saturday and briefed him on its activities which back the ministry's primary health care programmes in Jordan. A committee spokesman said that 750,000 doses of polio would be provided for the benefit of children during 1990 and the three coming years, worth \$370,000. Zaben voiced the ministry's appreciation of the committee and the Rotary Club whose efforts are being coordinated with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

### Minister opens JUST exhibition

RAMTHA (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Fariz opened Saturday an exhibition at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST). The week-long exhibition, which was organised by the university's Faculty of Engineering, displays wood, metal and glass products, equipment used in scientific laboratories in the faculties of medicine, engineering, agriculture and science as well as samples of fine spare parts and furniture manufactured to cover the university's needs.

### Jordan to attend Arab postal talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the meetings of the Arab Postal Training College board of trustees which will start in Damascus Monday. Post Office and Postal Savings Corporation Director-General Abdullah Al Jazi, who will represent Jordan in the meetings, said the five-day meetings would discuss the status of the college and its future after being affiliated to the General Secretariat of the Arab League. Jazi said that he would hold talks with officials from the Syrian Postal Administration to discuss scopes of cooperation and coordination between Jordan and Syria.

### IDB approves industrial loans

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) Saturday gave its approval of five loans worth together JD 610,000 to finance several industrial schemes in Jordan. Since the start of 1990, the IDB provided 40 loans to Jordanian businesses altogether worth JD 6,548 million.

## ACC ministers of awqaf urge cooperation in religious affairs

AMMAN (Petra) — Senior officials from ministries of awqaf and Islamic affairs in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries opened a three-day meeting here Saturday to work out a programme for the implementation of an ACC agreement on cooperation in religious affairs.

Resolutions and recommendations to be reached at the meeting will be submitted to the ministers of awqaf and Islamic affairs who are due to hold a meeting in Baghdad on June 14 and 15, according to Dr. Ahmad Hilayel, Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs secretary-general.

Hilayel said the officials, all secretaries-general of the ministries of awqaf in Egypt, Yemen, Iraq and Jordan, would explore means of implementing the 13-point agreement which was reached by the ACC ministers last February.

They said the achievements of the Arab summit in Baghdad last week serve as an impetus for the ACC to forge ahead with all force to coordinate the four countries' efforts in various fields.

ment, underlining Jordan's principles of centrism and religious tolerance in dealing with religious related issues in the four countries," Hilayel said.

He said that the Jordanian paper calls for unified systems in conducting sermons at mosques, religious and Sharia colleges and Islamic centres operations.

He said such questions as organising annual Islamic book exhibitions, support for Islamic centres in the ACC countries, matters related to pilgrimage and zakat (alms to the poor) and Islamic jurisdiction would be reviewed at the three-day meeting.

Secretaries-general of Egypt and Iraq also addressed the opening session stressing the importance of integration within the ACC states in matters related to religion and faith.

They said the achievements of the Arab summit in Baghdad last week serve as an impetus for the ACC to forge ahead with all force to coordinate the four countries' efforts in various fields.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday inaugurates a Jordanian-Chinese cultural week (Petra photo)

## Jordanian-Chinese cultural week opens

AMMAN (Petra) — A joint Jordanian-Chinese cultural week opened at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman Saturday by Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein.

The Queen, toured the various sections of a plastic art exhibition displaying art from Jordan and China, paintings, ceramics and

embroideries.

The Queen also met with members of Jordanian and Chinese folk troupes taking part in performances to be staged during the week and learnt about their activities.

The week-long activities include a seminar on Jordanian-Chinese relations, lectures by

Minister of Culture Khaled Al Karaki and other prominent Chinese and Jordanian personalities as well as former ambassador to China. Among those present at the opening ceremony was Dr. Mohammad Hamdan, minister of education and higher education.

POLITICAL

## No organised group yet seen involved in downtown attack

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The suspect held in the May 21 assault on a group of French tourists in downtown Amman appears to have been prompted to carry out the attack by a "sense of personal revenge" for the massacre of eight Palestinian workers by an Israeli gunman near Tel Aviv the day before, a senior police source said Saturday.

The suspect has a very clean record," said the source, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity. "He has never been arrested or come under suspicion of any crime. Questioning of the suspect and investigations are continuing, and we have yet to come across any evidence which links him to any organised group," he added. "But we are keeping an open mind."

The suspect, Ahmad Tawfiq Badwan, 28, who was arrested without resistance immediately after the 9:30 a.m. attack in front of the Roman Amphitheatre in Amman, is a resident of the Al Hussein refugee camp, where his family moved after fleeing its original home in a village near Ramallah in the West Bank during the 1967 war, according to the source.

Reports that Badwan was originally from the occupied Gaza Strip and one of his relatives was among the victims of the Israeli gunman on May 20 are unfounded, the source said. "He was shouting 'Gaza,' 'Gaza' during the attack and people assumed that he was from Gaza," apparently because all of the victims of the Israeli gunman near Tel Aviv were Palestinian workers from the Strip seeking daytime labour in Israel.

Badwan, who is married with four children, is the fourth in a family of four brothers and three sisters. He used to run a grocery store in downtown Amman along with his father and brothers. "He admitted that he was prompted by a sense of personal revenge for the massacre of Palestinian workers," the police source told the Jordan Times. The suspect is still under police custody and has not been

wounded by gunfire," the source said. Eight of the wounded were French and the ninth was a Jordanian tourist photographer working with Royal Tours, the travel agency in charge of the group of 35 French tourists.

Hospital sources said the wounds were mostly caused by "flying metal granules" which could have been disintegrated parts of the bullet after hitting the ground or any hard surface. Another theory was that the ammunition used could have been pellet-type bullets which burst into small pieces upon impact. This assertion led to speculation that the assailant could have been firing on the ground for maximum impact or he did not aim to cause serious injuries.

Neighbours described Badwan, holder of a five-year Jordanian passport, as "nothing out of the ordinary, regular man in the street."

"It is so strange that such a calm, gentle person could have carried out the attack," said a neighbour, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

His Majesty King Hussein has described the attack as a possible reaction to "crimes" by Israel against the innocent. However, the King emphasised that "such feelings of anger do not justify the occurrence of such an incident in Amman at all."

Almost all members of the Badwan family stay in the same neighbourhood of Al Hussein camp, but none of them could be reached immediately for comment.

Most observers say that the attack appeared to be "an individual act" rather than linked to any group. No claim of responsibility was made either in Amman or in occupied Jerusalem as some reports had suggested, according to several people who kept a close tab on events related to the assault.

The source dismissed some accounts of the attack which said that the assailant had followed the tourist bus from a museum atop the hill overlooking downtown Amman. The museum was the first stop of the tour group.

The source confirmed that the weapons used in the attack — an unlicensed Italian-made seven-millimetre Lama automatic and the knife — were seized by police, but could not or would not say whether police had any clues to the origins of the firearm.

Police have not been able to figure out how many bullets the gun originally contained (its magazine capacity is nine bullets), but "as soon as (the suspect) emptied the magazine he pulled out a knife and stabbed two people inside the bus in addition to seven others

## ACC ministers to discuss cooperation in education

AMMAN (Petra) — An executive programme for the implementation of an agreement on cooperation in higher education fields among the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will be discussed by ministers from the four countries at a two-day meeting opening here on Tuesday.

Dr. Izzat Jaradat, coordinator of the coming meeting said that senior officials from higher education ministries in Jordan, Iraq, Yemen and Egypt would come together on Monday to prepare for the Tuesday meeting.

Apart from the implementation of the Arab agreement the ACC officials will discuss such questions as transference of students at school and university level within the ACC countries, university fees, exchange of visits by teachers and matters related to curricula.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by five Jordanian artists at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- \* Art exhibition by Dana Khreis and Laana Khreis at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* Exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Al Barberi at Yarmouk University.
- \* Exhibition of products of the Jordan University of Science and Technology engineering workshops displaying equipment used in scientific labs.

## Committees begin work in the south

TAFILEH (Petra) — Committees set up by the government to carry out projects in the south of the country to help local inhabitants face the consequences of this year's drought embarked on their tasks Saturday in the Tafileh and Ma'an governorates.

According to Tafileh Governor Khalid Mahameh, JD 500,000 has been allocated for developmental projects and will be spent through the committees in the Tafileh region.

He said construction of roads and retaining walls, maintenance of water springs and planting of trees would be among the first schemes to be implemented and expected to employ 300 workers.

Ma'an Governor Eid Qatarnah said the government-appointed committee there would open canals and drill artesian wells among the projects in the region.

## Jordan Times

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## Gorbachev and change: Equation for the Arabs

**SOVIET LEADER** Mikhail Gorbachev went to his summit with President George Bush beset by several domestic and external problems. Far more serious to his stature as a leader of a crumbling empire is the mounting threats to his position within his own country by his own people. The election of maverick Boris Yeltsin as president of Russia is just one manifestation of Gorbachev's troubles. Leadership and time are running out for him to make a strong comeback. Most observers of the Soviet scene assert that the situation in Moscow is getting worse for Gorbachev with each passing day. All these developments are occurring while the rest of the world, especially the Western countries which have a vested interest in the Soviet leader's survival, are simply watching the unfolding of events in the Soviet Union with remarkable indifference. The Bush-Gorbachev summit is a living testimony of how the West is still trying to talk the Soviet leader dry by insisting on more and extra concessions on every conceivable issue separating the two superpowers. And the more Gorbachev gives in to the West's demands, the more his position in Moscow becomes vulnerable. Instead of applying more external pressure on the Soviet president, now is the time to show compassion and understanding to the very man who ushered in a new era across the entire face of the earth.

Meanwhile the situation in the Soviet Union poses some very difficult questions for the Arab World. As evidenced by the Gorbachev-Bush summit the Arab-Israeli conflict has not figured highly on the agenda of the two leaders. This makes the probabilities of another Israeli-Arab war increase, especially in view of the fact that a Middle Eastern war no longer poses a danger to escalate from a regional war into a global one. Gone are the days when Moscow used to threaten to retaliate with nuclear weapons should one of its allies in the Middle East become the subject of a nuclear attack by Israel. Thus the new ball game in the Middle East envisages leaving the Arab states and Israel on their own to extricate themselves from the scourge of war. And the more Gorbachev is left alone to his own devices, the more vulnerable also becomes the Arab position in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

True, the Arab leaders took heart from Gorbachev's letter to their summit conference in Baghdad last week. They must have also taken heart from the Soviet leader's statements regarding the Palestinian issue in Washington two days ago. Both of his balanced letter to the summit and his objective comments in the U.S. capital say much about the man and his policies worldwide and the Middle East. But it remains for the Arabs to understand the depth of his thinking and the changes taking place around him, and to put them to their best use in the service of Arab causes and the attainment of legitimate Palestinian rights. The world is changing fast around us, and we expect from our leaders to back their summit resolutions with immediate actions to get the best deal we can for our peoples and their aspirations.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

**ARABIC DAILY** newspapers here were unanimous Saturday in condemning the United States for its open support for Israel at the United Nations.

Al Ra'i daily said that by resorting once again to the veto of a resolution calling for the despatch of a fact-finding mission to the occupied territories, Washington has reiterated to the world community its real hostile intentions against the Arabs in general and the Palestinian people in particular. The veto at the Security Council served as a reward for the Israeli aggression for their black Sunday's massacre of Arab workers and for all the other atrocities committed against the Palestinian people, the paper said. The veto was not only a green light for the Israelis to carry on with their crimes but also manifested Washington's persistence in preventing the international community from providing protection to the Palestinian people in the face of the war of genocide being launched against them in their own homeland, the paper said. The United States has vetoed a resolution that would have appointed United Nations observers to be stationed in Palestine to monitor Israel's practices there, and has thus manifested itself as a real enemy for the Arab World and a superpower intent on imposing its hegemony on the Arab region with the help of the Israeli aggressors, the paper said. As if this was not enough, said the paper, the United States is urging the PLO to condemn all anti-Israeli activity in return for continuing the U.S.-PLO dialogue in Tunis. It said Washington's behaviour is clearly aimed at aborting all attempts to find a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Saturday called on the Palestinians to end their dialogue with the United States which, he said, has proven to be more hostile to the Arab cause than the most extremist elements of the Zionist movement. Tareq Masarweh urged the Arab states to stop counting on the United States for any peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict because, he noted, Washington's role is obviously designed to abort every Arab attempt to stop the Israelis from pursuing their ambitious designs in the Arab region. The writer urged the Arabs, for at least one year, to stop accepting what is called Washington's role in the peace-making process, and to tell U.S. diplomats that their role is not positive and cannot contribute to promoting peace. Why should the Arab diplomats at the United Nations feel frustrated or shocked at Washington's behaviour at the Security Council when they already realise that the United States is an ally of Israel, backing all its practices and protecting it from international condemnation? asked Masarweh. Should the Arabs try to treat Washington differently at the diplomatic level, he added, they will soon discover that the United States, which is being manipulated by world Zionism, is not as important as they had imagined it to be.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# Can Jordan repay its debts?

By Dr. Fahed Faneh

THE WORLD is not yet ready to write off, out right, the debts of the Third World owed to the advanced countries. But it inevitably is heading in that direction.

In theory and in practice too, the developing countries could not possibly repay their debts until they achieve a trade surplus in the international markets. That is when their exports to the developed countries exceed their imports. Only in such a case, the developing debtor country can generate hard currency to service their debts.

Such state of affairs is next to impossible. Poor countries need to import more than they can export, not only to secure the minimum basic needs of their peoples, but also because of their need to import machinery, and other capital goods required for development.

In other words, the mere write-off of all debts owed by the Third World countries

would not be the solution. The developing countries still need funding in foreign exchange to cover their ever-growing deficits. When the debt crisis erupted in 1982, total debts were around \$800 billion. After eight years, the debts rose to \$1,300 billion. Debts continued to accumulate due to capitalisation of interest and fresh loans. Jordan's external indebtedness in 1993 will definitely be higher than it was at the crisis point in 1982.

That is the overall world picture in general, but what about Jordan in particular? Jordanian officials say that we shall pay the interest during the coming five years, and resume repayment of principal and interest thereafter, when the economic adjustment programme would be implemented.

Such a statement may indicate good intentions and true willingness to honour the commitments. But the question remains valid: Is the Jordanian economy capable of making a

net transfer of wealth amounting to \$700 million per year for five years, and \$1.4 billion a year later on? Is this feasible and practical?

Jordan's debt can be serviced in two cases: The first case is when Jordanian exports of goods and services exceed imports. The surplus can then be earmarked for net settlement. This assumption is not possible in the foreseeable future. Our utmost efforts are aimed at the reduction of the deficit.

The achievement of surpluses did not yet cross the minds of our economic planners. Not even as wishful thinking.

The second case is when creditors become willing to lend us every year more than the amounts payable to them. This is what happened so far in Latin America. It is equivalent to capitalisation of interest and the growth of indebtedness year after year. No net repayments were taking place.

International creditors are fully aware of this fact. That is

why they are ready to sell their debts at a deep discount in the secondary market of Third World debt. On average Latin American debts are selling at 30 cents to the dollar. Latin America can buy back its debt at one third of its contractual value, but even that is beyond their means. The Sudanese debt reportedly selling at 98 per cent discount, i.e., at two cents for the dollar.

Of course some creditors may recover all or part of their debts but only at the expense of other creditors. This happens when a country borrows from the World Bank to pay Citibank. The creditors as a whole could not possibly get any net repayment.

The Third World is not only unable to pay back its present debt. It is also unable to pay the interest. As a matter of fact they are in need of fresh loans to maintain the minimum standard of living and finance investments.

Even when a debtor country

happens to have some dollars, the question of priority arises: Does debt servicing have priority on the scarce sources of foreign exchange over other needs such as investments and importation of basic commodities? The logical answer is no. Debts should not be serviced until more urgent needs are satisfied.

The only exception to this rule is the repayments to funds and institutions that continue to lend the country fresh funds in excess of their repayments. In effect there is no net reduction of debt. It is the exception that confirms the rule.

The talk about the debt redemption fund is no solution to the problem. The only real fund is the Treasury, which is in deficit. Deficit in the budget will decrease gradually during the adjustment programme, but it will not disappear completely. It does not help to argue that such fund will be fed from exceptional sources such

## German unity splitting Bonn Social Democrats

By Tom Heneghan  
Reuter

BONN — German unity is splitting the Social Democrats (SPD), Bonn's main opposition party, and forcing them towards a political hour of truth that could undermine their hopes of unseating Chancellor Helmut Kohl this year.

Once supremely confident that unity would boost its vote, the SPD is now at odds with fellow Social Democrats in East Germany and deeply divided at home over how to mount a challenge to Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU).

The party does not know if it faces only West German elections in December, as scheduled, or all-German polls that would require a far different kind of campaign.

It is not sure its chosen candidate, Oskar Lafontaine, wants to run after barely surviving a knife attack last month and seeing many SPD members support the economic union Kohl's government has worked out with East Germany.

And it cannot predict whether Lafontaine's hopes of slowing down Kohl's headlong unity drive will seem statesmanlike or stingy when voters come to pass judgment on it.

"Everything could be totally different three or four months' time," leading SPD strategist Peter Glotz complained May 22. "We can't depend on opinion polls."

The crunch comes on June 22

when the treaty merging the two economies comes before the Bundestag, the upper house of Bonn's parliament, for a last reading before taking effect on July 1.

Until recently, the SPD complained about the high cost of unity — a line sure to win votes in a purely West German campaign — without having to take responsibility because Kohl's coalition controlled both houses of parliament.

At the same time, the eastern SPD, junior partner in the CDU-led coalition in East Berlin, was demanding and winning concessions on economic union that would add to the overall amount Bonn will have to pay for unification.

In East Germany, they represent the people who want to have more and here in West Germany they represent the people who want to give less," CDU Secretary General Volker Ruhe said. "That can't work in the long term."

The party was put on the spot on May 13, when a surprise victory in state elections in Lower



Helmut Kohl

Saxony produced an SPD majority in the Bundestag.

Kohl turned the victory into a dilemma by opting for early all-German elections, in which the CDU's clear pro-unity line in both East and West would probably have greater appeal.

The SPD could block the economic treaty, but only at the cost of being stigmatised as the party that opposed German dreams of unity.

Latest opinion polls say more than four-fifths of all Germans support unity despite the problems it will cause for both sides.

Coalition leaders are already criticising the SPD for even considering slowing down unification and the tone of their attacks presages a vicious election campaign if the party dares to use its new-found majority against the treaty.

"I'd like to see the SPD majority in the Bundestag that blocks the treaty and the path to German unity," Otto Lamsdorff, chairman of the Liberal Free Democrats, says tauntingly in interviews these days.

"There will be no problems, the treaty will be ratified..."

In a twist that only a process as complicated as German unity can produce, Lafontaine and his party have jumped far ahead in the latest opinion polls, possibly in reaction to the assassination attempt and the Lower Saxony victory.

But, like Glotz, German politicians are increasingly wary of the polls that used to give them fairly accurate read-outs of their once-stable electorate.

The SPD should know that best of all. Once so confident of unity's benefits that it made former Chancellor Willy Brandt its honorary chairman in both East and West, its support shrank from a landslide predicted in the opinion polls to only one-fifth of the vote in East Germany's general elections in March.

## LETTERS

### A grant not a loan

To the Editor:

IN THE "Jordan Times" of May 30, 1990, page 3, in the column "National News in Brief", a piece of news appeared about the approval by the Jordanian government of an Italian "loan of U.S. \$1.6 million to finance shipment of Italian rice imported by Jordan."

I would like to state precisely that it is not a loan that Italy conceded to Jordan, but a grant of Italian rice for the amount of U.S.\$1.6 million which is part of the food aid programme of our government.

Franco de Courten  
Ambassador of Italy

## China — looking back in anger, waiting for new direction

By Guy Dimmore  
Reuter

PEKING — In the year since China's 85-year-old leader Deng Xiaoping summoned the army to crush a popular movement for democracy, the Communist Party has consolidated its control more successfully than many expected.

But recent signs of disunity in the party's highest ranks coupled with industrial recession reflect a lack of political direction, diplomats and Chinese intellectuals said this week.

Stability is the party's official watchword and Chinese dissidents say it has been achieved, at least for the moment, at the price of intellectual and economic stagnation.

"The voice of the Chinese people is silent," said an elderly intellectual. "We are so angry. But we are waiting. There is no point in sacrificing more lives."

Three dissidents who dared to raise their voices against the government disappeared on May 31 shortly before they were to meet journalists to announce an open letter appealing for the release of political prisoners.

One of the three, pop singer Hou Dejian, was detained by police, a close friend said. He had no information on the other two, Zhou Duo and Gao Xin.

Senior Chinese officials have made it clear that no dissent will

be tolerated.

Security has been visibly stepped up as Peking approaches Monday's anniversary of last year's crackdown.

Many intellectuals believe the next impetus for change in China could come not from the people, who took to the streets in their millions a year ago, but from within the party or the armed forces. It may not be for better.

"Will democracy come from within? There's a danger that

ultra-reactionary forces could take over first," commented a party member and democracy activist.

A recent swing back to reformist ideas in the economy and the release of 211 political prisoners last month could trigger a hard-line backlash, he said.

A creeping purge of the media, government ministries and the security forces has rewarded those loyal to the party and removed some, but not all, of its opponents, diplomats said.

Widespread passive resistance to official investigations has slowed the process of eliminating dissent.

A year ago, party veterans, with Deng embattled but seemingly in control, buried their differences and united in the face of a popular uprising. Already, however, diplomats say, the leadership is again fragmenting.

Deng, who seemed alert and relatively fit when last seen in May, is seen as the final guarantor of party unity.

While some people in Peking board fireworks to celebrate his eventual death, many others fear the chaos it would unleash.

"There was Mao Tsetung and then there was Deng. Nobody else has his stature," commented the elderly intellectual.

Last June, Deng sacrificed his protege, reformist party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang, who was

"ill, looks fine, doesn't it?" said a taxi driver. "But only on the surface."

## Andy Capp

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CARE TO JOIN ME, GORGEOUS?

YOU'RE NOT MARRIED, ARE YOU?

IF YOU ACT LIKE YOU DON'T REALLY CARE, ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU CAN TURN AROUND AND...

O.K.! TAKE MY LUGGAGE! — ELE WALK!

Y98

GET LOST

WHAT'S KEEPIN' THAT GUY THREE HOURS I WAITIN'

WHAT'S KEEPIN' THAT GUY THREE HOURS I WAITIN'

5-26

SOMETIMES

SOMETIMES

## No more blind eye towards children

By Jean-Marc Dupuch

A CHILD, the victim of brutal behaviour, is crying. "The neighbours could not manage to sleep, but they did manage to turn a blind eye," one reads, and at the bottom of the poster, "Thank you for not minding your own business." This slogan also appears on two other posters of a campaign aimed at breaking the silence which tolerates violence to minors. This is the appeal made to travellers on the Paris underground.

In the world, every day, 40,000 children die from disease or illness. Every year, 3.5 million children starve to death. 120 million children are abandoned by their families. 50 million are exploited at work or used in drug peddling, prostitution and sexual violence, or recruited to fight wars when the armies have killed off the men. 120 million children are deprived of all schooling.

Because minors suffer from all kinds of abuse, in all countries, in varying degrees, and because they are spared from none of the violations of Human Rights, the United Nations unanimously adopted the International Convention of Children's Rights, in November 1989.

To come into effect, the Convention had to be ratified by twenty countries. On Jan. 26, 1990, the representatives of sixty states, that is to say more than a third of the United Nations, signed the declaration. This keenness to promise to protect and defend children in civil, social, economic and cultural areas gives hope.

In order to stress the importance France attributed to this, Edwige Avice, the minister delegate to Foreign Affairs, was asked to justify a text which, even if it represents a compromise, can lead a number of countries to reconsider certain attitudes which are all too often justified by local ancestral traditions. Avice pointed out, "when women's rights make headway, children's rights do so too."

Obviously, everything is not going to change overnight, and all the more so, as UNICEF draw attention to the deterioration in the situation of children in the world. Its latest report stresses that 100 million children will die from easily avoidable diseases and malnutrition



Millions of abandoned, malnourished, and exploited children need guaranteed legal rights.

in the 90s. "There will be neither public outcry nor an appeal for aid. The world will barely notice their disappearance," the international organisation predicts.

In order to counteract this forecast, James Grant, director general of UNICEF, considering the convention, as a "fantastic legal framework to structure policy in favour of childhood," wants to "fill in this framework with a certain number of concrete principles and proposals." For this purpose, he has proposed a summit of heads of state for autumn 1990.

A reading of this same report makes it already possible to know what he is going to ask the leaders of all countries, rich and poor: "cut down on military spending to save millions of children from death." Indeed, the latter point represents an acknowledgement of a child's right to personal defence in

the cases of malnutrition could amount to 2.5 million a year, that is to say 2 per cent of the spending on weapons in developing countries or the price of five ultra-modern bombers.

But "the fight to save lives must go together with action to change the lives thus saved," Federico Mayor, director general of UNESCO, declares.

That is why, in addition to "the inherent right to life," the convention guarantees minors the practice of fundamental liberties such as freedom of expression, religion, association and non-interference in their private lives, as well as the right "to be heard in any administrative or judicial procedure concerning them."

The latter point represents an acknowledgement of a child's right to personal defence in

justice. This is a right for which barristers such as Agnes Fichot have been fighting in France for long years. The mission of the association Media-Enfant, which she presides, is to inform the biggest public possible about this convention, and in priority children themselves.

In order to do this, Fichot has thought up a 15 minute cartoon called "Alice in Children's Rights Land," which clearly and attractively sums up the principles of the convention. English and Spanish versions are available. Profits from diffusing the film will make it possible, together with local authorities, public authorities and specialised organisations, to finance further action in favour of minors and particularly their defence in court — L'Actualité en France.

busy tearing offices apart. Gill and a group of men and women, shoved through the disorganized crowd and took control of the compound from the now helpless Stasi officers.

During the first sleepless night after the headquarters had been cleared of demonstrators, the citizens' committee appointed special working groups to take charge of the different Stasi departments.

"After two days the question of a leader to coordinate everything arose," said Gill. "Someone proposed me, and, well, I just accepted." Since then Gill has been working up to 14 hours a day overseeing one of the most delicate tasks of post-revolutionary East Germany.

To help him in his work, he has been given a large office, one of the Stasi's fleet of 20,000 cars and a middle-aged, platinum-blond secretary who had previously worked for a Stasi general.

Even so, the job, for which the state pays Gill a monthly salary of 800 East German marks (about US\$160), would daunt the most experienced administrator.

Nationwide the secret police employed 85,000 full-time staff plus an estimated 150,000 collaborators and informers, or 1 Stasi employee for every 65 members of the East German population.

It had special sections for espionage and counterespionage and for surveillance of the army, the police and the Communist Party as well as dissident groups. There were also departments for intercepting mail and for tapping telephones and special liaison offices to coordinate activities with friendly secret services such as the Soviet KGB.

The Stasi had regional offices in every district of the country, a complete, self-contained telephone system, safehouses, video cameras on street corners, 100 kilometres (about 62 miles) of dossiers in the national headquarters alone and an annual budget

of 3.5 billion marks (about US\$6.8 million).

"They knew everything they wanted to know," said Gill. "It was a perfectly functioning army. Of course, it is not simple to dismantle it. For our citizens' committee the job is perhaps one number too big."

But in spite of his youth, Gill does not look in the least bit overwhelmed. The son of a priest, he was no stranger to the methods of the Stasi. Churchmen were prime political suspects of the old regime. Even in the out-of-the-way parish in the south of East Germany where Gill was brought up, the Gill family was the object of persistent surveillance. "We just lived with it," remembers Gill, "we couldn't imagine that it would ever be otherwise."

Gill was unable to get a place at a state high school because, coming from a religious family, he was politically suspect. Instead, he trained as a plumber before being admitted to an unofficial theological seminary a year and a half ago. At the outbreak of revolution last autumn, he plunged into opposition activities, founding a local citizens' movement in central East Berlin, where he shares a small apartment with a friend.

"For the first time, it became clear that we could do something to change the situation," he says of those exciting days. But as calls for immediate unification with West Germany grew more impatient and nationalistic and the political parties more divided and helpless, Gill became disillusioned with politics.

Now he has little time for reflection on the headlong rush toward Germany unity. He reckons that it will take until the summer for the citizens' committee to finish its job at the Stasi headquarters and hand over the follow-up work to a government agency. The files that remained intact after Stasi offices were ran-

## Student in charge in secret service lair

By Tom Porteous

BERLIN (WNL) — Six months ago it was the inner sanctum of one of the most efficient, ruthless and feared secret services in the world. Here, at the centre of a vast complex of anonymous buildings, the former East German minister for state security, Erich Mielke, kept watch over the population of the German Democratic Republic in the interest of a corrupt and aging Communist dictatorship. There were few corners of the country that Mielke's Stasi, as the secret police was called, could not penetrate with their surveillance devices and their informers.

Today from a large office at the Ministry for State Security, a lighthearted 23-year-old East German presides over the dismantling of Mielke's secret police. Mielke himself is in jail.

"It's mad," says David Gill, with a mischievous, intelligent smile. "Mad is the word one needs most to describe what's going on these days." Since last autumn East Germany's revolution has turned the country, and the lives of its people, upside down. Gill's story is just one of the more extraordinary examples.

On Jan. 15 Gill was watching the news on TV when the programme was interrupted to announce that thousands of angry citizens were storming the Stasi headquarters in East Berlin.

An impulsive, Gill made his way to the scene and quickly joined a group of citizens who were trying to restore order. The only way to satisfy the violent crowds was to set up, then and there, a "citizens' committee" to take control of the compound and to begin the task of dismantling the security apparatus.

"There was no time to think," remembers Gill. Demonstrators bent on revenge for years of repression had already broken into several buildings and were

sacked in December and again on Jan. 15 must be put in order, and inventories of Stasi equipment must be completed.

When a truckload of secret files arrives, unannounced, from some Stasi outpost in the provinces, Gill has to decide what to do with them. He also has to work with state committees to decide how to distribute Stasi buildings, vehicles and technical equipment to hospitals, the army, the interior ministry and so on.

"We are not an investigation authority," Gill insists. "We can only be the watchful eye of the people." But nonetheless, there are probably some in the spy business, both East and West, who are not enthusiastic about Gill's 90-member committee going through the dirtiest linen of East Germany's secret intelligence history.

Already Gill is aware that a number of former Stasi officers are now on the payroll of the West Germans Secret Service, while others have gone to the KGB with sensitive files. It's probable that some high-ranking officials are quite worried about keeping some Stasi information confined to secrecy, but it's a notion that Gill is not interested in discussing.

"In fact, we don't know that much," says Gill warily. (He has not even seen his own Stasi dossier.) "But there may be those who think we know more than we do." If this is the case, it could be hard for the intelligent and energetic young theology student to extricate himself from the secret world into which he was so unexpectedly propelled by the revolution.

"I hope I will be able to make a clean break with all this when I take up by theology studies again next September," he says quietly but firmly. "And when I am through with my studies, I will go into a parish and become a priest."

## Arab grocers, Chicago blacks in conflict

By Sarah Nordgren

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Tensions between blacks and the Arab immigrants who have set up shop on some of Chicago's meanest and poorest streets are festering anew in this midwestern city.

Those tensions have existed for years, but only reach a new low this spring when a Chicago grocer placed a sign in his window:

"This store is being remodeled.

No Arabs will be involved."

Arab-Americans say they are doing a service for residents of impoverished, often dangerous, communities long abandoned by the supermarket chains.

"Arab grocers are in those black communities because all the big grocers have left," said Fadi Zanayed, head of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, which estimates as many as 1,000 small stores in the city are run by Arab-Americans.

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## G-15 forges joint stand on world debt

KUALA LUMPUR (Agencies) — Fifteen developing countries have hammered out a joint stand on reducing Third World debt to strengthen their bargaining position with creditors and rich nations, a senior Malaysian official said Saturday.

Ahmad Kamil Jaafar, secretary general of the Malaysian Foreign Ministry, told reporters that the joint position on debt agreed by the Group of 15 (G-15) would be published Sunday.

The 15 account for about half the total Third World debt of \$1.3 trillion and include some of the world's major debtors from South America and Africa.

It was the first time that developing nations from four continents had united on debt.

"We are forging a position which can be used in our negotiations. If there was no common position you cannot deflect or minimise pressure (from rich nations)," Ahmad Kamil said.

Third World debt featured prominently at the inaugural meeting this week of the G-15, which groups leaders and senior ministers from Asia, Africa, South America and Europe.

Leaders of Argentina, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe were joined by senior ministers from Algeria, Brazil, Egypt, Jamaica, Mexico, Nigeria and Peru at the June 1-3 meeting of the G-15.

Ahmad Kamil spoke to reporters after the group, formed after last September's Non-Aligned Movement summit in Belgrade, held a second day of talks in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur.

He declined to give details of the agreement, which he said would be announced in a joint communique on Sunday.

Malaysia has asked for the Western creditors to be prepared to bear the risk of lending and that the debt of the least developed countries be written off.

Julius Nyerere, one of the Third World's elder statesmen, pleaded with the G-15 leaders not to let dissent in their ranks destroy initiatives and cooperation among poor nations.

The former president of Tanzania also urged the G-15 to set up a secretariat, along the lines of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations, to boost Third World cooperation.

Officials from several debt-ridden nations in the group also held unscheduled debt talks this week and called for a more comprehensive strategy of tackling world debt.

The current Western approach relies on the so-called Brady plan proposed by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady to reduce commercial bank debt and the "Toronto terms" by which the poorest debtors obtain relief.

### Fall to comply

But some Third World countries have complained that some middle-income debtors, such as Nigeria, fail to qualify for either of these plans.

Ahmad Kamil said the joint G-15 position would be proposed to the Group of 77, an economic forum of developing nations.

A senior delegate said a nucleus of five nations in the group have also called on French President Francois Mitterrand, a supporter of the G-15, to plead the case of Third World economic needs, including the debt issue, with rich nations.

France is a member of the Group of Seven along with the



Mahathir Mohammed

United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan, Italy and Canada, which will meet in Houston next month.

### North blamed

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad blamed industrialized nations Friday for most problems afflicting the Third World, and said a shifting power balance following the end of the cold war threaten developing nations.

Mahathir said lending nations must be prepared to accept losses from the massive debt load carried by developing countries.

"We are not self-appointed arbiters and regulators of the world's economic affairs, neither are we conspirators against the north," Mahathir said.

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## EC threatens legal action as 'mad cow' row grows

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC), fueling a major international row over "mad cow" disease, threatened France and West Germany with legal action on Friday unless they lifted bans on British beef imports.

EC Agriculture Commissioner Ray Macsherry also threatened Luxembourg with similar action. But Luxembourg angrily denied that it had banned imports of British meat and EC officials admitted that they had made a mistake.

West Germany, worried about possible risks to public health, ignored angry British protests that its beef was safe and on Friday joined France in imposing a ban.

Macsherry said both countries had until 1600 GMT Monday to, revoke the ban, adding that they had imposed it without consultations and despite the fact that measures had been taken to safeguard health.

Failure to comply will result in the necessary litigation," he said in a statement.

### Luxembourg denial

Macsherry also said the same ultimatum had been issued to Luxembourg. But Thierry Stoll, Luxembourg's deputy ambassador

to the EC, angrily denied that his country was involved.

"We find this particularly scandalous," he told Reuters. "This is quite a typical attitude for the commission — to shoot first and then check."

Belgium advised its citizens not to eat British beef, but Denmark said it was not worried about importing British meat.

The European Community's Executive Commission said it had called an emergency meeting of farm ministers next Wednesday to discuss the issue.

Britain reacted angrily to the restrictions, insisting people could eat its beef without any fears.

"I think they stink," said junior Agriculture Minister Baroness Trumpington in a comment on the French government.

Macsherry said both countries had until 1600 GMT Monday to, revoke the ban, adding that they had imposed it without consultations and despite the fact that measures had been taken to safeguard health.

Failure to comply will result in the necessary litigation," he said in a statement.

### British scientists have suggested that cows catch BSE from fodder containing the offal of sheep infected with a similar disease called scrapie.

Reacting to the French and West German bans, a British Ministry of Agriculture spokesman said: "They are totally unjustified, unwarranted and contrary to European Community law."

Macsherry said the emergency ministerial meeting would discuss both the health and trade issues involved, reviewing previous evidence from an EC veterinary committee that concluded in January British meat was safe.

He said in his statement he was very concerned by the French, German and Luxembourg actions "and the danger that such actions could be copied by other member states."

He urged all EC members to adopt a common approach.

Belgian Health Minister Roger Deloës said in a statement he was "inviting the population to abstain from eating beef from Great Britain and, if it is eaten, to make sure that it is cooked for a long time."

France banned British beef Wednesday, one day after Austria, saying consumers needed reassurance that their meat was safe.

The French government has so far ignored the Commission request to rescind its ban.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JUNE 3, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

usually put point across to an influential person concerning the need you have for more modern efficiencies.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) An unusual entertainment can be enjoyed by you and one of different views from your own if you make a conscious effort together to discover them.

**SCORPIO:**

(October 23 to November 21)

You need to have a very frank discussion with members of your own household who can adopt formulas that are time saving, wasteless energy.

**SAGITTARIUS:**

(November 22 to December 21)

Let those in the world of action know of your present plans for streamlining your activities so you have much more satisfactory results.

**CAPRICORN:**

(December 22 to January 20)

You are very wide awake to the various ways that a project can be put across and this is the day to use this aptitude in money matters.

**AQUARIUS:**

(January 21 to February 19)

Take in as many amusements, entertainments and recreations as possible today and you should gain something special from each one of them.

**PISCES:**

(February 20 to March 18)

Forget those traditional bound ideas that so occupy your behaviour and show that you can please your own clan by a more progressive stance.

## Saudis increasingly irritated with OPEC violators of quota

LONDON (R) — Saudi Arabia appears increasingly irritated at how others in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) have been slow to join it in making promised oil output cuts needed to erase a world glut.

London July futures prices for North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded crude oil, extended a two-month slide on Thursday dropping 35 cents to around \$16.40 per barrel.

Traders blamed news of a rise of 2.1 million barrels in U.S. crude stocks which are an indicator of the scale of the glut.

After a strongly worded statement a week ago by Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer, industry officials say the Saudis have hinted their patience may run out if others in OPEC such as Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates have not made meaningful cuts by about mid-June.

Gulf sources with some insight into Saudi thinking said that there was not yet any deadline for when Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, might automatically turn its taps up again.

But they said simple commercial logic dictated that Saudi Arabia might want to re-examine its policy if others' failure to help reduce the glut continued to depress prices.

But that did not mean that Kuwaits, for instance, might not be under intense political pressure from exporters such as Iraq, Iran or Algeria which were desperate for revenue.

Iran and Iraq need money for reconstruction after their Gulf war and the Iranian oil minister, Gholamreza Aqazadeh, is on record as saying vital national interests are at stake.

The Kuwaits insist they are now trying to cut output.

Kuwait says it stopped spot market sales of crude and supplies to its own European refineries and that it will sell reduced contract volumes in the United States in June.

Its output could therefore be down now to about 1.7 million barrels daily from 1.9 million in April and early May.

In the event, they were selling less oil but others' apparent lack of commitment to the accord, at least in the early part of May, had kept prices pinned.

Nazer said in his statement May 23 that OPEC's agreement "would have been stillborn if it had not been for Saudi Arabia."

According to Western industry sources, the Saudis quickly dropped their output back to a mandated quota of 5.4 million barrels per day (bpd) — a drop of more than 400,000.

Evidence could not be found of any similarly rapid drop from Kuwait or the UAE, although several Western analysts say there are now signs that Kuwait has begun to act and that a decline of about 200,000 barrels in its daily output will be apparent soon.

The Gulf sources said that, with the OPEC accord now a month old, the Saudis would be anxious to see discipline by others like Nigeria and Venezuela.

Overdue interest may total \$8.5 billion this year, the government conceded in a letter to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) last Friday.

It will obviously be an enormous benefit if we have free access to the oil market," John Drake, managing director of Shell South Africa's oil division, said in an interview.

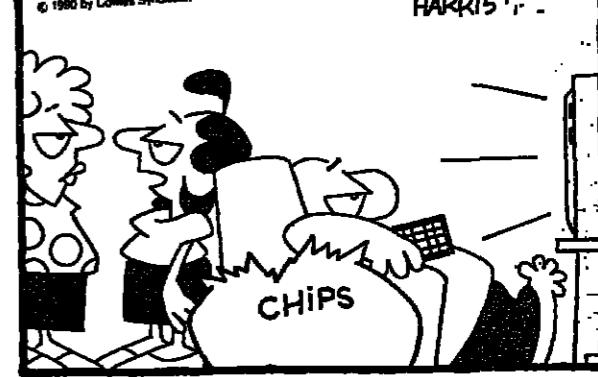
Pressure for sanctions was growing quite rapidly but there would be a reluctance formally to abolish them soon.

"So long as products are available, so long as they are made, they will be available to South Africa," Sims said.

He said deregulation could al-

## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Stanley is at that awkward age. Actually, he's been awkward at every age."

## JUMBLE

IN THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME

© 1990 by Comics Syndicate, Inc.

HARRIS

YOPPP

SUMOE

MISTEK

NUCLUR



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise letters, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: THE

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's

Jumble: FENCE PRIME GOATEE NOODLE

Answer: What might go on inside a compass?

"NEEDLE POINT"

Yesterdays' Puzzle Solved:

6 Rue

8 Eroneous

9 Pretend

10 Suite

12 Playright

13 Jones

14 Embellish

15 There

22 Tresses

23 Genetic

24 Deal

25 Atom

26 Eligible

27 Kaboom

28 Zoon

29 Emote

30 Elated

31 Roma

32 Possess

33 Chop

34 Mudville

35 Antelopes

36 Omnit

37 Early

38 Pathetic

39 Author Loos

40 Wreath

41 Milian

42 Listening

43 Perceived

&lt;p

## LA SEMAINE DE

Soliman Swiss

## Mort d'un ministère

Le ministre de l'Education, M. Hamdan, a annoncé mardi dernier la prochaine suppression du ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur (MES). Les arguments de ce dernier, tout que ses fonctionnaires éparpillent entre le ministère de l'Education et les universités. M. Hamdan n'a pas évoqué les raisons réelles de cette décision, mais il faut entendre qu'elles sont d'ordre financier.

Le jeune ministre n'aura donc vécu que cinq ans. C'est en juillet 1985, il avait été chargé de veiller au bon fonctionnement des établissements post-secondaire (collèges, instituts et universités), de coordonner leurs activités, de définir les normes d'enseignement ainsi que de l'octroi des équivalences aux diplômes étrangers. On lui avait adjoint néanmoins une autre responsabilité : la formation universitaire des enseignants, étape indispensable pour le développement global du système scolaire dans le pays.

Je me souviens encore combien les "collèges" dits de "la communauté" vivaient dans l'anarchie pédagogique et organisationnelle avant la création du MES. J'ai été véritablement choqué en apprenant la nouvelle de sa suppression. D'autant plus que, deux semaines auparavant, le Forum de la Pensée Arabe, basé à Amman, a organisé un colloque sur "les moyens de développer l'enseignement supérieur dans les pays arabes au cours du siècle prochain". Le fossé entre la parole et l'action serait-il devenu si courant dans la vie arabe?

Quelle que soit la justification de la décision gouvernementale, cette dernière va tout droit à l'encontre des conceptions, voire de la théorie, défendues à maintes occasions par les responsables. On nous disait, il y a encore quelques années, que la Jordanie n'a pas beaucoup de richesses naturelles et que l'homme jordanien "vaut" plus une fois formé et entraîné. Un ancien ministre et pédagogue l'a même écrit noir sur blanc en 1984 : «la main d'œuvre éduquée et entraînée est l'industrie N. 1 de la Jordanie». On voulait à l'époque "exporter" cette richesse. Les chiffres élevés des rentées en devises étrangères, envoyées par les expatriés dans le Golfe et ailleurs, fournissaient une preuve eloquente de l'efficacité de cette "théorie".

Le raisonnement était simple : d'un côté, un taux de taux soutenu (4%) que l'économie jordanienne, par l'étroitesse de son marché, ne saurait jamais absorber comme main d'œuvre; de l'autre, les pays du Golfe, en quête d'employés qualifiés, qui en retour peuvent envoyer régulièrement des économies au pays, qui en a besoin pour équilibrer sa balance commerciale.

Or, on considérait alors l'enseignement comme un investissement prometteur. D'où le souci de l'améliorer et de mieux contrôler ses résultats. Certaines forces politiques étaient certes élevées contre la création du ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur, y voyant à l'époque un moyen de centralisation de la répression à l'encontre des étudiants et des professeurs d'universités.

Peut-être ces forces avaient-elles raison de s'inquiéter dans le contexte d'avant les émeutes d'avril 1989. Mais aujourd'hui, à la lumière des nouveaux acquis démocratiques, on ne peut que regretter la disparition du MES. Nous voyons même une erreur très grave, qui risque d'avoir des conséquences négatives sur l'ensemble du secteur éducatif national.

En effet, l'enseignement supérieur concerne environ 20 000 étudiants et collégiens, sans compter les établissements de formation des professeurs. Le système éducatif tout entier touche par ailleurs la vie de plus de la moitié des Jordaniens. Son importance devient même encore plus grande, quand on considère le taux croissant du chômage, notamment parmi les jeunes diplômés. Et ce, alors si la "théorie" semi-officielle s'avère compromise.

Le lendemain de la triste nouvelle, nous avons appris que huit jeunes scientifiques jordaniens sur treize candidats avaient décroché des prix au concours des jeunes scientifiques arabes, organisé par la Fondation Abdul Hamid Shoman. L'effort consacré à l'enseignement y est évidemment pour quelque chose. N'y avait-il donc pas d'autre moyen, pour réduire les dépenses, que de supprimer le MES?



"La Terre Va-t-Elle Cesser de Tourner?", d'Haroun Tazieff

## Le pamphlet d'un écologue en colère

Ses compétences scientifiques et ses campagnes en faveur de l'écologie l'on rendu célèbre dans le monde entier. Fidèle à ses convictions, le vulcanologue Haroun Tazieff

Le nez écrasé du boxeur qu'il fut dans les années 1950, les épaulures de rugbyman qu'il est encore à 75 ans, le vulcanologue Haroun Tazieff demeure un ardent défenseur de la Nature. Une nature, qu'il voit, la rage au cœur, se dégrader chaque jour davantage.

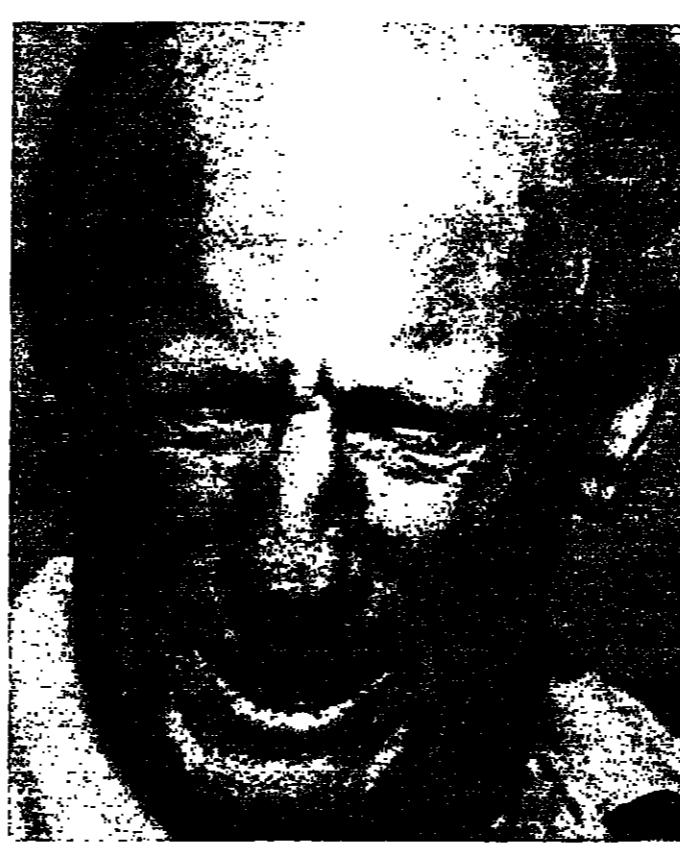
Né à Varsovie d'un père descendant de notables Kirghize, ce chercheur passionné faisait dérailer les trains sous l'occupation nazie. Aujourd'hui, ce scientifique de renommée mondiale n'a plus qu'une préoccupation : empêcher, si faire se peut, le massacre écologique de la planète Terre.

C'est dans le cadre de ce combat qu'il vient de publier un pamphlet consacré aux "terreurs de l'an 2000", sous le titre "La Terre Va-t-Elle Cesser de Tourner?" (\*). "Garouk", comme l'appellent ses amis, y crie sa colère et y montre d'un doigt sans complaisance les politiciens, arrivistes et puissances, industriels uniquement préoccupés par l'appât du gain, fonctionnaires incomptables qui, selon lui, conduisent le globe à sa perte.

"Depuis quarante ans, écrit-il, je tente de protéger la nature. J'ai même fait le coup de poing pour sa défense dans une manifestation d'écologistes (...). J'ai aussi acquis le savoir que m'a donné l'Institut agronomique, l'Ecole de géologie et l'expérience du gouvernement [Haroun Tazieff a été sous-secrétaire d'Etat aux risques majeurs de 1981 à 1986].

## Le pouvoir politique inefficace

Ce chercheur polémiste ne croit pas que le pouvoir politique soit jamais capable de résoudre les problèmes d'environnement. «Trop d'intérêts sont en jeu. Seul un chef de gouvernement convaincu de l'urgence d'une politique sérieuse (et jamais je n'en ai encore rencontré), ni entendu dire



Haroun Tazieff : réaliste ou pessimiste?

qu'il en existait) pourrait la conduire (...). Une protection efficace de la nature doit être décidée localement, par ceux qui sont directement concernés, poursuit le vulcanologue. Tazieff s'en prend également aux «mafias de toute nature, qui règnent sur nos institutions». Il stigmatise les «ruptions tonitrueantes de politiciens et de mandarins universitaires dans l'écologie pour prouver leur arrivisme».

Les «écols», ses anciens compagnons de lutte, ne trouvent pas plus grâce à ses yeux, depuis qu'ils forment le parti des «Verts» : «ils nous cassent les oreilles, lance Tazieff, avec de prétendues catastrophes, qui ne ressortissent que de leur ignorance et de leurs rêveries pass-

quées. Souvent, ces Don Quichotte, ignorants du réel, exagèrent les risques ou inventent d'imaginaires pour atteindre leurs objectifs.

Tazieff n'a pas la demeure dure à l'encontre des grandes organisations internationales.

Ainsi de l'ONU elle-même, qu'il qualifie de «panier de crabes». Il reproche notamment aux Nations Unies leur «inefficacité, le gaspillage des deniers publics (...), conséquence du parasitage des uns, de l'arrivisme et de la corruption des autres».

Le vulcanologue émet encore, avec une tranquille assurance, des avis qui détonnent dans «le concert à la mode des pleureuses». Avec des arguments

Jeune ballet de France au RCC

## Une grâce toute exceptionnelle

Le Jeune Ballet de France, qui rassemble de jeunes danseurs âgés de 16 à 20 ans, s'est produit pour la première fois au RCC jeudi soir. Un spectacle de danse et sur la danse d'un niveau professionnel.

Le temps d'une seconde, on pressait un peu le pas en entrant, jeudi soir, dans la grande salle du Centre culturel royal (RCC), de

faire leurs premières armes sur les scènes de France et des capitales étrangères.

Si Robert Berthier, heureux initiateur de cette formule, nous dit que la danse appartient à tout le monde et qu'elle n'est pas l'affaire de professionnels, le cours de danse qui se déroule si naturellement sous nos yeux à l'ouverture du spectacle nous rappelle que le danseur professionnel est un éternel apprendre, qui inlassablement devra reprendre le mouvement jusqu'à ce que la plus grande difficulté technique soit exécutée sans l'apparence du moindre effort.

Seize jeunes artistes ont présenté trois séries de danse, évoquant l'évolution de cet art

depuis les règles figées du ballet du XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle jusqu'au mouvement libéré du ballet contemporain. Des études de rythme sur le son désincarné du métronome jusqu'aux joies populaires des danses folkloriques; nous avons pu apprécier la fraîcheur et la grâce toute exceptionnelle de ces jeunes danseurs. Un vigoureux et élégant corsaire sur une musique de Dido; la légèreté d'un cygne noir aux sons de Tchaïkovski; ou encore le Pas de Deux et variations de Flammes de Paris ont souvent réussi à nous faire oublier que ces professionnels étaient encore parfois des adolescents.

La deuxième partie, résolument contemporaine, a soutenu, par la qualité de ses chorégraphies et de leur exécution, le niveau de ce spectacle.

Bernard Mahoux.

d'homme de science et en proposant des solutions, inspirées par le savoir et l'expérience. Au nombre des idées fausses (délibérément entretenu, soutient-il), Tazieff range la menace que représenteraient les centrales nucléaires. A ses yeux, point de risque en France, en tout cas. «En quarante ans d'activités, remarque-t-il, il ne s'est pas produit d'accident mortel dû au nucléaire.

## Arguments plus économiques qu'écologiques

L'auteur va même plus loin : à l'en croire, l'accident qui s'est produit à Seveso, dans la banlieue industrielle de Milan, en 1976, fut une «catastrophe imaginaire». Cet «Hiroshima de la chimie», comme l'avaient alors baptisé certains média, n'a tué personne. Tout au plus, l'émanation de gaz a-t-elle provoqué des réactions cutanées rapidement guérie. A l'époque, le sous-secrétaire d'Etat s'était efforcé de faire entendre cette autre vérité. «Sans succès. On avait créé un monstre aussi imaginaire que les soucoupes volantes.

Autre grande polémique : le trou dans la couche d'ozone.

Pour Tazieff, il s'agit surtout d'un «phénomène naturel et Ozone se reconstruit à mesure qu'il se déroule. Il suspecte de plus ceux qui accusent les chlorofluoro-carbone (CFC) d'avoir des articulations politiques qu'écologiques.

L'effet de serre? Pour autant qu'il existe, je ne le crois pas redoutable. Il n'est pas démonté que la température globale croît de façon significative. L'augmentation de la teneur de l'atmosphère en CO<sub>2</sub> (dioxyde de carbone) ne peut, contrairement à ce que certains prétendent, réchauffer le sol de façon sensible.

Quelles sont alors les véritables menaces qui pèsent sur la planète? «Le massacre de la biosphère, cette mince couche d'air et de terre qui permet la vie. Par la pollution de l'air, des sols, des eaux douces et amères. Par l'invasion des déchets, dont on ne sait plus que faire. Par le bruit, ce fléau social», répond-il. Le scientifique ajoute les incendies de forêt (44 000 hectares détruits en France en 1989) et les risques de séismes, contre lesquels l'Europe, en général, est mal protégée.

Est-ce à dire qu'Haroun Tazieff est pessimiste quant à l'avenir de la Terre? Plutôt réaliste, affirme-t-il. En se disant malgré tout «l'histoire démontre qu'à toute décadence, si elle n'atteint pas un seuil léthal, succède une régénération. Notre société étant menacée, il faut que tous ceux qui s'en affligent s'efforcent de faire vivre de bord notre colossal navire, avant qu'il ne s'écrase sur les rochers.

Pierre-Albert Lambert.

(\*) Editions Seghers, Paris.

## EN BREF

Visite. Le secrétaire au Foreign Office, Douglas Hurd, a quitté Amman vendredi, au terme d'une visite officielle de trois jours en Jordanie. Le ministre britannique des Affaires étrangères, qui s'est entretenu avec le roi Hussein, a notamment réaffirmé jeudi la position de Londres en faveur d'un dialogue entre Israël et des représentants palestiniens comme préalable à la tenue d'une conférence internationale de paix au Proche-Orient. Douglas Hurd doit achever aujourd'hui à Ryad un séjour de 72 heures en Arabie Saoudite, dernière et dernière étape de sa tournée dans la région.

Jordanie-URSS. Le prince Hassan a reçu mardi à Amman une délégation militaire soviétique, dirigée par le général Anatoli Klemov, chef d'Etat-major adjoint de l'Armée Rouge. L'entretien a notamment porté sur la tension au Proche-Orient et sur les inquiétudes arabes à l'égard des changements politiques en Europe. La délégation soviétique a quitté Amman pour Moscou dès la fin de sa rencontre, après un séjour d'une semaine en Jordanie.

Aide. L'Irak a décidé cette semaine d'octroyer une aide de 50 millions de dollars à la Jordanie pour 1990. L'annonce, vendredi, de ce soutien financier est intervenue au lendemain de la résolution du sommet arabe extraordinaire de Bagdad, soulignant l'engagement des pays participants à renforcer la résistance de la Jordanie et ses capacités (...). Amman a déjà reçu une enveloppe de 20 millions de dollars de la part des Emirats dans le cadre de l'assistance arabe au royaume hachémite pour cette année. Selon les autorités jordanienes, Bagdad examinerait déjà l'octroi d'une nouvelle aide financière pour 1991.

CCA. Le prochain sommet du Conseil de coopération arabe (Jordanie, Egypte, Irak et Yémen) se tiendra en octobre à Bagdad, a annoncé mardi le secrétaire général du CCA, Holmi Nammar. Cette réunion, la cinquième depuis la création du Conseil en février 1988, sera la première à accueillir la nouvelle République yéménite proclamée le 22 mai. La fusion entre les deux Etats yéménites a été officiellement validée par le CCA, a d'ailleurs précisé Holmi Nammar.

Veto. Les Etats-Unis ont opposé jeudi leur veto à une résolution du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU favorable à l'envoi d'une mission d'enquête, composée de trois de ses membres, dans les territoires occupés. Cette résolution avait pourtant recueilli 14 voix, dont celles de la France, de la Chine, de la Grande-Bretagne et de l'URSS, qui eux aussi possèdent un droit de veto au Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies.

Arafat. Le chef de l'OLP a nié jeudi soir à Bagdad toute relation avec la centrale palestinienne et le groupe responsable du raid de mercredi sur la côte israélienne. «Nous ne sommes pas responsables de cette opération», a affirmé Yasser Arafat, en se refusant cependant à condamner cette action au cours de laquelle quatre Palestiniens ont été tués et deux autres faits prisonniers par l'armée israélienne. Le secrétaire au Foreign Office avait appelé l'OLP le même jour depuis Amman à «se dissocier» de cette tentative de débarquement, qui, a-t-il dit, pourrait causer «des dommages substantiels à la cause palestinienne (...).

Annulation. Benazir Bhutto a annulé jeudi la tournée qu'elle devait entamer hier dans six pays du Golfe, en raison de la situation intérieure de son pays. Le premier ministre pakistanais a en effet décidé de rester à Karachi, où de graves violences ethniques ont fait quelque 250 morts ces derniers jours.

Voyage. Le premier ministre britannique se rendra en visite officielle en URSS du 7 au 10 juin, a annoncé Londres jeudi. Margaret Thatcher rencontrera Mikhaïl Gorbachev dès le lendemain de son arrivée, quelques jours après la fin du sommet américano-soviétique et au moment même où se réunira dans la capitale soviétique le Comité consultatif des pays membres du Pacte de Varsovie.

Déception. Le gouvernement roumain a exprimé jeudi sa «grande déception» après les critiques formulées par Washington sur le déroulement des élections générales et présidentielles dans ce pays le 20 mai dernier. Un porte-parole du ministère roumain des Affaires étrangères les a qualifiées d'«injustes et incorrectes envers le peuple roumain». Les Etats-Unis avaient affirmé le 26 mai que de «sérieuses distorsions et irrégularités ont marqué le processus électoral, qui a favorisé de manière injuste le Front de salut national [FSN, plus de 65% des voix].

Gabon. Le ministre français des Affaires étrangères, Roland Dumas, a confirmé vendredi que le dispositif militaire français au Gabon «allait être allégé» et que les «militaires [quelque 500 hommes] allaient regagner leurs bases». Cette décision fait suite au retour du calme dans ce pays africain, après les violentes émeutes de la semaine dernière.

Salmonellose. Entre 50 et 100 personnes ont été intoxiquées à Belfort (est de la France) par des gâteaux contaminés par la salmonellose à indiqué jeudi l'hôpital de la ville. 24 malades, dont 20 enfants, ont dû être hospitalisés, certains d'entre eux se trouvant dans un état «sérieux», selon le chef du service médical d'urgence de Belfort.

Vitesse. La France a décidé jeudi d'investir 530 millions de francs (93 millions de dollars) dans la recherche et le développement du «Train à grande vitesse [TGV] du futur», capable de parcourir en temps normal 1000 kilomètres en trois heures. L'objectif de ce programme est de mettre au point avec la société nationale des chemins de fer français un train qui devra atteindre une vitesse commerciale supérieure à 330 km/h, tout en étant doté d'un confort et d'une sécurité encore supérieurs à ceux du TGV actuel.

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Sommet extraordinaire de Bagdad

## Pari gagné, succès mitigé

*Le sommet arabe extraordinaire de Bagdad, qui s'est achevé mercredi, constitue un succès réel pour l'Irak, auquel les chefs d'Etat participants ont renouvelé leur solidarité. Un succès mitigé cependant, tant les décisions finales sont restées souvent en-deçà de propositions concrètes d'action.*

Critiqué depuis de nombreuses semaines par plusieurs pays occidentaux, qui lui prétent des intentions bellicistes, l'Irak peut s'estimer satisfait du sommet extraordinaire de Bagdad, qui s'est achevé mercredi, à l'issue de trois jours de débats. Une satisfaction dépendant mitigée par l'absence de résolution concrète. Le sommet n'a en effet débouché que sur

le rappel de principes, alors que certains, comme le président Saddam Hussein mais aussi Yasser Arafat, attendaient des prises de position actives.

Certes la déclaration finale du sommet contient de sévères critiques à l'encontre des Etats-Unis. Mais, même si les chefs d'Etat arabes présents à Bagdad ont fait la promesse d'un soutien «actif»

aux pays dont la sécurité nationale est menacée, les résolutions finales de mercredi sont restées en-deçà de certaines propositions concrètes formulées au cours des débats.

Si le soutien multiforme promis mercredi à la population palestinienne de l'intérieur consiste essentiellement dans la réaffirmation des décisions des sommets d'Alger (juin 1988) et de Casablanca (mai 1989), de nombreux observateurs ont relevé cette semaine que les pays arabes ont durci le ton, en accusant notamment les Etats-Unis d'encourager Israël à refuser tout processus de

paix dans les territoires occupés ainsi que l'arrêt de toute aide ou prêts à Israël, qui serait destiné à la création de nouvelles colonies.

Ainsi de deux suggestions défendues avec vigueur par Yasser Arafat. Le président du Conseil exécutif de l'OLP (CEOLP) a notamment proposé la création d'un «conseil de sécurité» national arabe et la convocation, dans un délai maximum d'un mois, du Conseil de défense arabe, dont la disposition principale stipule que toute agression contre un seul Etat est considérée comme dirigée contre tous les pays membres de la Ligue arabe. Ni l'une ni l'autre n'ont été adoptées.

De son côté, le président Saddam Hussein n'a pas recueilli l'approbation générale escomptée quand il a demandé au sommet de proclamer «d'une même voix» que les Arabes riposteraient «œil pour œil, dent pour dent, à toute agression» israélienne. Les participants aux débats se sont contentés de déclarer que Bagdad avait le droit de répondre à l'agression par tous les moyens qu'il estime nécessaires et de prendre «toutes les mesures nécessaires pour garantir et défendre la sécurité nationale (...), y compris [par] l'acquisition des moyens scientifiques et technologiques avancés».

**Plus proches et plus fermes**  
Les chefs d'Etat arabes se sont montrés plus proches sur l'autre grand dossier à l'ordre du jour du sommet de Bagdad, à savoir les conséquences de l'immigration des Juifs soviétiques en Israël. Leur droit à l'émigration n'a pas été remis en cause, mais leur éventuelle installation à Gaza, en Cisjordanie occupée et même à Jérusalem a été qualifiée de «danger». Quant au statut de ces territoires, les pays arabes ont rappelé qu'il ne pouvait être défini que dans le cadre de négociations de paix et non de façon unilatérale, comme prétend le faire Yitzhak Shamir.

C'est pourquoi le sommet de Bagdad a demandé la constitution d'un organisme international chargé de révéler, si besoin est, la présence de nouveaux immigrants.

**République yéménite**  
**L'unité à marche forcée**

En moins de six mois, les Yémén du Nord et du Sud, aux systèmes politiques antagonistes, ont réalisé leur unité, brûlant les étapes pour mettre leurs adversaires devant le fait accompli.

La République yéménite est née le 22 mai. Deux jours plus tard, le nouvel Etat, dont le président est le colonel Ali Abdallah Saleh, ancien numéro un nord-yéménite, s'est doté d'un gouvernement. Trente huit ministres, appartenant majoritairement aux cabinets des deux pays de l'union. Cette semaine, le Conseil de coopération arabe lui a donné l'un de ses premiers signes de reconnaissance internationale, en l'invitant en qualité de membre à part entière au prochain sommet des «Quatre», en octobre à Bagdad.

Cette marche à l'unité entre un pays d'inspiration marxiste (le sud) et un autre, d'inspiration islamique, a pris en fait l'allure d'une véritable course contre la montre. En annonçant le 12 mai l'évacuation des forces armées de Sanaa et d'Aden pour faire échouer toute tentative, directe ou indirecte, d'un quelconque conspirateur susceptible de provoquer une catastrophe, le colonel Saleh avait lui-même une indication sur la réalité d'une telle menace. Peu avant, Ali Salem al-Baid, secrétaire général du Parti socialiste yéménite (alors au pouvoir à Aden) et désormais vice-président de la République, avait dénoncé «les forces obscurantistes qui cherchent à semer le trouble au cours du projet constitutionnel pour entraver le processus de l'unité».

C'est bien les odeurs, les goûts et les bruits même, qui me racontent avec tant de précision notre histoire: le thym et l'absinthe, qui poussent dans le désert qui fut savane, puis le café et la voix du pilon, qui s'entendent de très loin et invite tous ceux qui l'écoutent à venir rendre visite. Que dire de la grande pierre, qui pose tant de problèmes aux archéologues? Combien de fils je lui ai donnés, accroupie sur cette large plaque horizontale de grès, pendant qu'il gardait l'entrée de la grotte! Sur cette même pierre, il a gravé un jour pour moi la carte du territoire. Votre ami le Professeur Borzatti a vu juste!

Une vie essentielle, sans gaspillage ni luxe mais riche de sensations subtiles, dans une communion totale avec la nature et une vision autre, où tout parle un langage naturel que les sédentaires ne comprennent plus. Seuls les physiciens ont découvert, tout dernièrement, qu'il y a un monde de Djinn, tout à la fois insaisissable et réel, qui parle de dimensions autres et secrètes. Il leur a pris longtemps pour y arriver, par des voies difficiles, trempées de larmes et de sang, tandis que chez nous, ces choses étaient senties et acceptées naturellement, par chaque fibre du corps.

Il est vrai que ces «forces» existent. Deux nébuleuses s'opposent en effet à cette proclamation, ou tout du moins à la constitution du nouvel Etat: certaines tribus sédentaires du Yémen et les courants islamistes radicaux. Les premières s'étaient déjà montré hostiles au précédent accord d'unification, signé à Tripoli en 1972. Les chefs de tribus pro-saoudiens se disaient alors déjà contre toute collaboration avec le régime «athée» d'Aden.

### Francophone

*Licencié en littérature française cherche emploi d'enseignant ou de traducteur (arabe-français; français-arabe) à Amman.*

*Pour tout contact, Tél: 790 463 (après 17h00).*

Voilà. Une grande solitude m'envahit. Je voudrais bien que cette femme ne disparaisse pas. Je ne veux pas la perdre, mais ne sais comment la rejoindre. Je ne peux qu'attendre. Vale Egeria!

Renouvelé leur solidarité. Un succès mitigé cependant, tant les décisions finales sont restées souvent en-deçà de propositions concrètes d'action.

## A L'AFFICHE

### FESTIVAL

A la redécouverte des musées

### A propos d'un trou dans la tête

*Le docteur Dieter Herles, membre du "Museumsdidaktischen Zentrum" est actuellement en Jordanie, invité par l'Institut Goethe pour une série de conférences sur la pédagogie des musées. Le centre de Munich, où il travaille, fonctionne comme un centre d'information et de conseil pour les musées d'Allemagne.*

*Le Jourdain: Qu'est-ce que la pédagogie des musées?*  
*Dieter Herles: des techniques d'expositions, qui ont pour but de rendre ces dernières plus vivantes pour le grand public, jeunes, enseignants, parents, ou pour quiconque y passe un après-midi.*

*L.J.: Quels sont ces moyens?*  
*D.H.: Ils sont multiples. Visuels, mécaniques... Le choix de l'animation dépendra de ce que pour les chercheurs, c'est à dire les mieux informés.*

*L.J.: Pouvez-vous nous donner un exemple jordanien, puisque vous avez visité les musées d'Amman et d'Irbid?*

*D.H.: Prenons celui d'un crâne, que j'ai vu au musée archéologique d'Amman. Au premier coup d'œil, il n'évoque pas grand chose. L'inscription annonce: tête de mort; trou dans le crâne; opération chirurgicale et la date. Ça m'inspire rien. Or cette tête est la clé d'une époque. L'opération qu'elle a subie en fait le sujet d'un drame culturel. Il y a toute une affaire à découvrir.*

*L.J.: Vous seriez de cette botte criminelle quelque chose de vivante?*  
*D.H.: Oui. Au sens classique du mot, musée veut dire siège des musées. Ce qui fait naître une curiosité pour les spécialistes et le grand public s'y ennuie. Il faut les transformer en lieu de loisir, qui transmettent des connaissances et élargissent l'esprit.*

*L.J.: Il faut donc pousser les gens à chercher à comprendre...*

*D.H.: Oui. Au sens classique du mot, musée veut dire siège des musées. Ce qui fait naître une curiosité pour les spécialistes et le grand public s'y ennuie. Il faut les transformer en lieu de loisir, qui transmettent des connaissances et élargissent l'esprit.*

*L.J.: Propos recueillis par Sami Kamal.*

### EXPOSITIONS

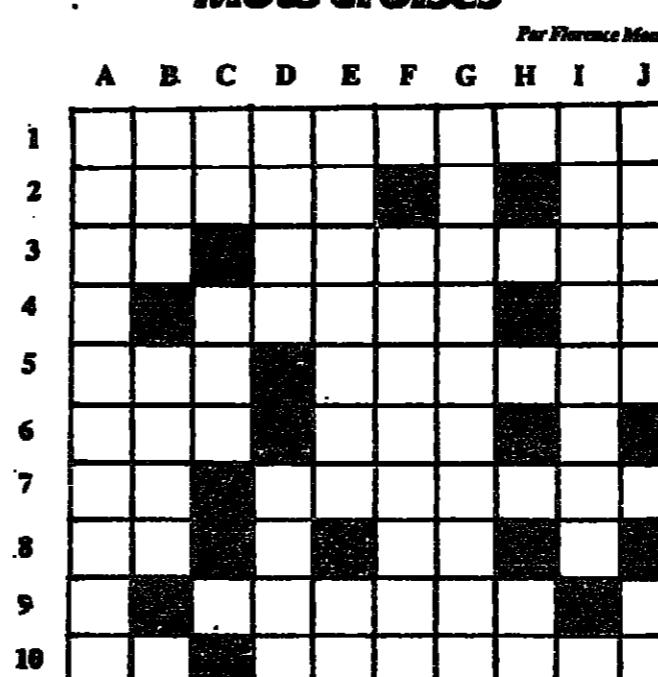
**La Bande Dessinée.** La BD est un nouveau langage. Des illustrateurs et des dessinateurs racontent leur travail, leur démarche, leurs passions (projections vidéo). Centre culturel français, du mardi 5 au dimanche 10 juin. Diffusion tous les jours à 16h00.

### CONFÉRENCES

**Archéologie.** Porte de Tibériade et cimetière musulman d'Abu Nami: les chercheurs Birgit Merschen (assistante de recherche au Yarmouk) et Thomas Weber (directeur de recherche) présentent les résultats des fouilles menées entre 1986 et 1989 à Gadara-Umm Qais par l'institut ouest-allemand protestant d'archéologie d'Amman. Institut Goethe, mardi 5 juin à 19h00 (en anglais).

**Charles Nodier.** Le directeur du CCF présente l'intellectuel français, qui, à cheval sur les XIXe et XXe siècles, est à la fois le «parrain» des romantiques et un précurseur du surréalisme. Centre culturel français, mercredi 6 juin à 18h00 (2ème partie; en français).

### Mots croisés



Horizontalement.

1: effrayer. 2: homme de main; adjetif possessif. 3: pronom personnel; séduire. 4: couleurs; règle. 5: choisir; sur les tombes. 6: adjetif possessif; manche au tennis. 7: dans latin; pas attachées. 8: coordinate; article. 9: serpent. 10: adjetif possessif; nouées.

(Solution de la semaine prochaine)

### Solution de la grille N. 12:

Horizontalement.

1: spectacles. 2: ostrac. 3: R&B; piano. 4: dressant. 5: si; n'ts. 6: immobile. 7: ne; né; tu. 8: bre; testes. 9: tantes; ôté. 10: es; estimer.

Verticalement.

At soudainement. B: pas beaucoup; pas rapide. C: valeur refuge; transport en commun. D: propre à raisin; est obligé. E: rapidité; lettre grecque. F: responsables. G: Arbres de l'encens. H: féminin. I: décryptez. J: pas fréquent; fortement le squelette.

(Solution de la semaine prochaine)

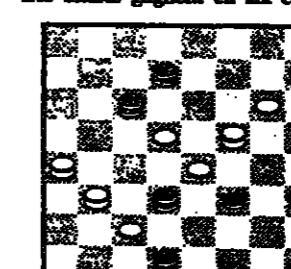
### LE SAVIEZ-VOUS ?

**BLE SAOUDIEN.** Les agriculteurs américains s'inquiètent de plus en plus des exportations subventionnées de blé saoudien et des ventes récentes du royaume à leur meilleur client: l'Union Soviétique. L'Arabie Saoudite s'est en effet immiscée sur les marchés internationaux des Etats-Unis et de l'Australie via des subventions exorbitantes de 14,40 dollars par boisseau à la production, permettant de dégager un profit brut de 1.500 dollar à l'hectare de culture, selon des experts américains. «Alors que le bon sens et les faits économiques semblent indiquer que l'Arabie Saoudite devrait importer et non exporter [des céréales], il n'en demeure pas moins que ce pays [en] a exporté 2,4 millions de tonnes en 1989», notent-ils. en déplorant «le gaspillage d'eau dans le désert saoudien que cette production implique».

**SOUPE CON SUISSE.** Les Suisses ont perdu confiance dans leurs banques à la suite des affaires de blanchiment d'argent de la drogue récemment révélées, selon un récent sondage. L'enquête, publiée par «L'Hebdo de Lausanne» et le magazine économique «Cash», indique de 61,6% des Helvètes considèrent ces pratiques «répréhensibles». 36% des personnes interrogées déclarent du coup avoir «moins confiance» dans leurs banques. Paradoxalement, ils y restent cependant fidèles: 71% des sondés préfèrent encore «sans hésitation une banque suisse à un établissement étranger pour placer leurs économies».

### DAMES

Problème N. 13.  
Les blancs gagnent en six coups.



Solution du problème N. 12:  
B. 23-20; N. 24-15; B. 27-23; N. 31-24; B. 14-10; N. 13-6; B. 22-13; N. 15-22; B. 23-20; N. 24-15; B. 5-10; N. 9-18; B. 10-26.

### ECHIQUETTE

Problème N. 13.  
Mat avec les blancs en deux coups.



Solution du problème N. 12:  
B. 23-20; N. 24-15; B. 27-23; N. 31-24; B. 14-10; N. 13-6; B. 22-13; N. 15-22; B. 23-20; N. 24-15; B. 5-10; N. 9-18; B. 10-26.

### DIMANCHE

17h45 - Tel Pép. Tel Filc sitcom à la française, avec Jacques Brelin.

18h15 - L'Ecole des Fous, animée par Jacques Martin.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Sélection de variétés françaises.

### LUNDI

18h20 - Des Chiffres et des Lettres jeu.

18h45 - Tel Pép. Tel Filc.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Anjourd'hui en Jordanie magazine localisé et présenté par Salim Madi.

### MERCREDI

18h10 - "Passage aux Chemins" série policière.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Les Méandres de l'Espresso documentaire.

### JEUDI</h3

# Sports

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 1990 9

## Eddery to partner Quest for Fame in Epsom Derby

LONDON (R) — English champion jockey Pat Eddery has decided to ride Quest for Fame in next week's Epsom Derby, spurning long-time ante-post favourite Digression.

Digression, who threw the Derby betting market into confusion last week by flopping in his final pre-Derby trial at Goodwood, will now be partnered by Walter Swinburn.

Digression is one of a string of expensive colts to have come unstuck in Derby trials, making Britain's premier flat race the most open in years. Both horses, priced around 10-1, are owned by Prince Khalid Abdullah of Saudi Arabia.

The surprise winner of the Goodwood race, Razeen, owned by Sheikh Mohammad and trained by Henry Cecil, is now clear 11-4 favourite. Razeen will be partnered by Steve Cauthen, who has ridden two derby winners for Cecil in the last five years.

Cecil's stable has announced that it will be sending another Sheikh Mohammad-owned colt, River God, to Epsom for next Wednesday classic.

"Although inexperienced, he is a very balanced horse and we know he gets the trip, having won over a mile and a half," Cecil said.

River God, who won by a very

comfortable 10 lengths on his only outing this season, will be ridden by Irish champion Michael Kinane.

Second favourite in the betting is French 2,000 Guineas winner Linamix, who, with five competitive races under his belt, is a veteran compared to some of the relatively untried colts in the race.

Linamix was quoted at 11-2 Friday, out from 5-1 earlier in the week.

Zoman, runner-up to Linamix in the French classic, is third favourite at 6-1. In a training spin last week Zoman beat group one winner Ibis Bey despite giving away 21 pounds (9.5 kgs).

Eppervier Bleu hot favourite for French Derby

Meanwhile, Eppervier Bleu is expected to start hot favourite to give jockey Dominique Boeuf his first win in the Prix Du Jockey Club — otherwise known as the French Derby — at Chantilly Sunday.

Eppervier Bleu, owned by Daniel Wildenstein and trained by Elite Lellouche, made his debut at Saint-Cloud in March and has not looked back since.

He has obliterated the opposition in each of his four races, most recently when he beat Tarvisio by a length and a half in the

## Graf shows strength

PARIS (R) — An ailing Steffi Graf, battling an apparent allergy to clay, still proved too much for Italy's Sandra Cecchini in a lackluster third round match at the French Open tennis tournament Saturday.

The West German world number one, who has been suffering from a sinus problem since the tournament started, said she felt better but still looked a shadow of her normal self.

Graf, who pulled out of the women's doubles Wednesday because of her breathing problems, did little but keep the ball in play against Cecchini, ranked 26th, but the comfortable 6-2, 6-3 win was enough to take her into the last.

Cecchini, who beat Argentine Gabriel Sabatini in Berlin last month, smiled almost apologetically each time she hit a winner as the contest drew to a predictable close in 64 minutes.

The match, scheduled for Thursday, was delayed by 24 hours because of rain and a prolonged men's singles matches but the rest did not seem to have improved Graf's condition.

"The doctor said it was an allergy. It comes and goes. I have it often but always when I play here... but this is the worst I've ever had it. I've never felt dizzy on court before," Graf said.

The effects of her allergy were obvious as she was broken four times by Cecchini.

But Graf, who had previously not dropped her serve once in the tournament, was more to blame, making too many unforced errors.

There were occasional flashes of her healthier self and her powerful forehand helped her out of trouble on the rare occasions she needed it.

"I was sure it was not going to be easy so I'm happy about the result. The conditions were not at all..."

American teenage sensation Jennifer Capriati survived a threesome with John Iman, battled each other all day. They were tied entering the final hole, but Hoch fell behind when he over-shot a 50-foot birdie putt and missed an eight-foot comebacker for par.

It was his only bogey of the day.

Starting on the back nine, Morgan had birdies on nos. 11, 14, 15 and 17. He then shot six straight pars before sinking a 25-foot birdie-putt on no. 6 to go 8-under.

He missed a 10-foot putt for par on no. 8 — his only lapse in two rounds — then parred the ninth hole to take the lead.

Morgan, 43, said his personal battle with Hoch lifted his game.

"It's always good to play with someone playing well," Morgan said. "We were kind of competing against each other on those last few holes."

Playing on the centre court, she recovered from a poor start and two early breaks to overpower her opponent, peppering the lines with her powerful forehand.

The Austrian, 10 years older than Capriati, seemed to recover in the middle of the second set, breaking the American twice, but then subsided on the first match point.

"I don't think I closed it out very well. I missed some easy shots. I was not as intense as I should have been to close it out and she came back from 5-2 to 5-4," said Capriati.

In Durham, North Carolina, American sprinters Leroy Burrell and Michael Johnson ran the fastest 100 and 200 metres in the world this season at the U.S. Collegiate championships Friday.

Burrell, a University of Houston student and training partner of world record holder Carl Lewis, won his 100 metres semi-final heat in an impressive 10.01 seconds.

Johnson, who attends Baylor University, later clocked a fast 20.18 seconds in his 200 metres semi-final.

"He (Burrell) ran a great race," said Tom Tellez, who coaches both Lewis and Burrell. "He got off well, accelerated well and maintained it, and he did it very relaxed."

On the women's side, Suzy Favour of the University of Wisconsin produced the top woman's 800 metres time of the season, one minute 39.11 seconds, and former U.S. Olympian Mark Everett of the University of Florida won the men's 800 metres in 1:44.70.

Sweden's Patrik Boden, the men's world javelin record holder who attends the University of Texas, defended his U.S. Collegiate title but failed for the first time this season to better 80 metres as he threw 79.82 m.

## Ballesteros quits Kemper Open early

POTOMAC, Maryland (AP) — Seve Ballesteros came to the Kemper Open with expectations of improving his game. He left two days early, still unable to find the solution to his erratic play.

After opening the tournament with a two-over-par 73, Ballesteros shot a 72 Friday and missed the cut by one stroke. A double-bogey on no. 8 — his second in two days — contributed to his early exit.

Gil Morgan had a second-round 67 for a 135 and a one-shot lead over Scott Hoch. Five players, including first-round co-leaders Pat McGowan and Ted Schutte, were at 137.

Ballesteros entered the Kemper looking to sharpen his game for the U.S. Open, which gets under way on June 14. His main objective, he said, was to solve his hot-and-cold play.

The match, scheduled for Thursday, was delayed by 24 hours because of rain and a prolonged men's singles matches but the rest did not seem to have improved Graf's condition.

"The doctor said it was an allergy. It comes and goes. I have it often but always when I play here... but this is the worst I've ever had it. I've never felt dizzy on court before," Graf said.

Morgan, meanwhile, completed 36 holes with only one bogey. With four birdies on the first eight holes Friday, he put himself in position to win his first PGA event since 1983.

"I've been hitting the ball well but my putting hasn't been very consistent," he said. "Maybe my luck is changing this week."

Hoch and Morgan, playing in a threesome with John Iman, battled each other all day. They were tied entering the final hole, but Hoch fell behind when he over-shot a 50-foot birdie putt and missed an eight-foot comebacker for par.

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## Holyfield heads for a possible pot of gold

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (AP) — Evander Holyfield's road to a heavyweight championship fight overcame a small bump and now heads toward a possible pot of gold.

Seamus McDonagh, a native of Ireland now majoring in English literature in New York at St. John's University.

McDonagh, who fell to 19-2-1

in the second and third rounds with punishing left jabs, occasional combinations, right-hand leads and body punches.

In the third round, Holyfield opened a cut over McDonagh's left eye. In that round, McDonagh got home perhaps his best punch of the fight, a right to the head, but it did him no good.

Early in the fourth round, Holyfield hurt McDonagh with two right hands to the head, and then finished him.

"At the time, we were trading punches, and I hit him with a left hook on the chin," Holyfield said.

Dan Duva, Holyfield's promoter, said the fight should show that the former cruiserweight has heavyweight punching power.

"It was proved tonight that he can fight and fight all comers," said Duva, who hopes to get a title match for his man before Douglas fights anyone else.

"Evander is going to fight this fall against Buster Douglas for the undisputed heavyweight championship of the world."

Holyfield got \$1.2 million while McDonagh, who came to the United States from Ireland in 1982 and now lives in Brooklyn, made \$100,000, by far his biggest payday.

## Look at number 10 for World Cup stars

ROME (R) — Looking for World Cup stars in Italy? watch out for the number 10:

The glamorous number 10 jersey will be sported by a choice band of soccer virtuosos, each with the inherent ability to dictate the destiny of both their teams and the title.

The are the ones who can lift the tournament from the mundane to the sublime, capture the hearts of the fans and turn the buzz of the crowd into a roar each time they receive the ball.

Appropriately enough, they are a band of exactly 10...

The list starts with Diego Maradona, who guided Argentina to the world title four years ago in Mexico with the help of the "hand of God" and his own unpredictable genius.

It continues with Rund Gullit, the dreadlocked Dutchman who has exerted an extraordinary influence on the revival of his nation's soccer fortunes.

It includes established stars like Lothar Matthaeus of West Ger-

## Falcon runs fastest 5,000 of year

EUGENE, Oregon (R) — Joe Falcon, former University of Arkansas star, ran the world's fastest 5,000 metres this year, clocking 13 minutes 20.49 seconds in the Prefontaine Classic Friday.

It ends with the new wave of East European playmakers, Gheorghe Hagi of Romania and Yugoslavia Dragan Stojkovic.

That the stars of so many top nations should wear the number 10 jersey is no coincidence.

When the incomparable Pele, who appeared in three Brazilian World Cup winning teams between 1958 and 1970, stamped his personality on the game, he gave a particular allure to the number he wore.

Just about every small boy who started kicking a football aspired to do the shirt of the sport's top idol.

Pele also created a new role as Brazil led a tactical revolution, switching from the traditional 2-3-3 formation to 4-2-4. Till then, the number 10 had been an inside forward, a deep-lying midfielder.

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## Thousands of fans line up to buy tickets to cup final

ROME (AP) — For Carlo Gerossa, losing a night's sleep and waiting in line for 22 hours was a small sacrifice for a chance to see the ultimate sporting event — the final game of the World Cup soccer championship.

"It's like the Super Bowl in America, this line waiting to buy tickets," said Giordani, 27, an economics student at the University of Rome. "But the World Cup attracts the whole world. There is no spectacle like Il Mondiale."

The early morning party on the Via Del Corso also was played out in front of seven of the bank's other branches in Rome. The eight branches were selling 10,000 tickets — out of 85,000 seats in Rome's Olympic stadium, where the World Cup final will be played July 8. All other tickets were reserved for national soccer federations, tour groups and commercial sponsors.

The prices ranged from \$25 to \$231,000 lire (\$192) and each fan was limited to one ticket. "It's like the Super Bowl in America, this line waiting to buy tickets," said Giordani, 27, an economics student at the University of Rome. "But the World Cup attracts the whole world. There is no spectacle like Il Mondiale."

## Cambodian rebel leader in Tokyo Sihanouk foresees big problems in Monday's talks with Hun Sen

TOKYO (AP) — Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk arrived in Tokyo Saturday with a statement that cast a shadow over peace talks that start Monday.

Sihanouk said in a statement issued as he arrived that there would be a "major problem" because the Khmer Rouge insisted on signing a ceasefire agreement as an equal partner. The Vietnamese-backed government in Cambodia refused to accept the Khmer Rouge as an equal.

Before he left Peking for Tokyo, Sihanouk said in an interview that even if the Tokyo talks resulted in a ceasefire agreement, the fighting would continue.

He said the Khmer Rouge, the strongest of the three guerrilla factions, had told him they were unhappy with the agreement crafted by Thai Defense Minister Gen. Chavalit Yongchayudh.

The Khmer Rouge claim Vietnamese troops still occupy Cambodia and Vietnam has annexed Cambodian territory, and that until these issues were settled "there will be a necessity to continue to fight."

Sihanouk said: "So there will be a possibility that in Tokyo the Khmer Rouge will more or less sabotage the peace process."

Hun Sen declared in a report by the official Cambodian News

Agency (SPK) Friday he had planned only to negotiate with Sihanouk.

Sihanouk Saturday said that by ostracising the Khmer Rouge, "indirectly Hun Sen encourages the Khmer Rouge to go on fighting."

Japanese officials were uncertain whether Sihanouk's allies would be seated at the talks or have a voice.

Sihanouk, in an Asahi Shimbun interview published Saturday, gave no hint of his position on seating arrangements at the Tokyo meeting. But he was quoted as saying that all four groups — the Hun Sen government and his three-member guerrilla coalition — should be permitted to contend in elections to choose a new government for Cambodia.

"Without such an election and without Khmer Rouge participation, we would never know and neither the Khmer Rouge, nor any other faction, would ever admit, that they did have the public support they claim," he was quoted as saying in Asahi Shimbun.

"I need not defend myself on charges that I am a 'supporter of the Khmer Rouge.' I spent four years under house arrest in Phnom Penh while they were in power, isolated from my family and foreign leaders, who were prohibited from contacting me, and worse, five of my own children and countless relatives were executed by them."

steer a shaky neutral course during the Vietnam war. He was ousted in a 1970 military coup.

He teamed up with Khmer Rouge guerrillas, but when they took Phnom Penh in 1975 he was put under house arrest while the fanatical Communists pursued a ruthless course.

Vietnam invaded in late 1978 and the Khmer Rouge went back into the jungles, later emerging as the strongest guerrilla force. Sihanouk in 1982 agreed to head the three-way partnership with the Son Sane faction and his foes, the Khmer Rouge.

Vietnam said it pulled out its last troops last year, but continues to provide key support to the Hun Sen government.

"People wonder why I have not separated myself from the Khmer Rouge, who have been likened to Hitler for their atrocities," Sihanouk was quoted as saying in Asahi Shimbun.

"I am reasonably optimistic the accord will be ratified," he said. Referring to the recalcitrant premier, he said, "to refuse (to ratify it) would be to take a big risk with Cambodia's future."

The Indian Army Public Relations Office in Srinagar issued a statement denying the army was involved in any way.

India has discouraged foreign reporters from travelling to the area although the restrictions are strictly enforced.

In Srinagar, Kashmir's capital, shops opened for the first time in 12 days Saturday and people flocked to stores to stock up on food. A combination of round-the-clock curfews imposed by the government and strikes ordered by Muslim militants have made daily life difficult here.

On Friday, a teenage boy was installed as Kashmir's top Muslim clergymen, succeeding his assassinated father. About 100,000 Muslims thronged to the Jama Masjid, Kashmir's largest mosque, to welcome 16-year-old Umar Farooq and renew their calls for independence.

Umar's father, Maulvi Mohammad Farooq, was killed by three unidentified gunmen in his Srinagar home on May 21. A few hours later security forces opened fire on a curfew-defying crowd carrying Farooq's body, killing at least 58 people and wounding hundreds more.

The toll was the highest in one day in security force action since India launched a crackdown on Kashmiris separatists on Jan. 20.

At least 486 people have been killed since January. Most were militants or supporters of the campaign for the separation of Jammu-Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, from predominantly Hindu India.

Kashmir was divided along a still-disputed frontier between India and Pakistan after British colonial India became independent in 1947 and was partitioned along religious lines.

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over the territory, in 1947 and 1965.

Relations between the two nations have sunk to their lowest point in years over the Kashmir issue. India accuses Pakistan of funding and training the militants. Pakistan denies the claim and says India is crushing a movement for self-determination.

About 64 per cent of the 6 million people in Indian-governed Jammu-Kashmir are Muslims. Nationwide, Muslims account for 12 per cent of India's 880 million people while Hindus comprise 82 per cent.

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Central television screened at length triumphant scenes of the ceremonies and tours surrounding the summit. But the media remained rooted in the domestic crises awaiting Gorbachev's return.

Newspapers still give front page coverage to the troubled economy and the restive parliament of the Russian Federation, the biggest and most powerful of the 15 Soviet republics.

Friday evening's main television news bulletin also gave ample time to domestic stories and other foreign items, in contrast to past practice of showing nothing but the leader's summit trip.

Scenes of a big demonstration in Armenia, where 24 were killed earlier in the week in clashes between militants and Soviet troops, and of Yeltsin presiding over the Russian parliament were given equal prominence.

In another report, the televi-

## Gunmen kill British officer, soldier in separate attacks in U.K., Germany

LONDON (AP) — A British soldier escaped.

In Berlin, meanwhile, police said they were looking for two masked men who fled the scene of the shooting at Lichfield City train station, 100 kilometres northwest of London.

Scotland Yard said an anti-terrorist squad was assisting with the investigation.

Chief Inspector Tony Johnson of the Staffordshire Police said the shooting "bears the hallmarks of an IRA attack." He did not elaborate.

Authorities said the three soldiers were shot while waiting on a platform for a train Friday. Witnesses said the gunfire sent commuters fleeing.

The three soldiers, who were in training at the Lichfield Army Base, were waiting for a train to nearby Birmingham for weekend leave, said detective chief Superintendent Malcolm Bevington.

He said two masked men appeared on the platform, pulled out handguns and shot the soldiers, then jumped onto the tracks, ran across the line and through a builder's yard opposite the station.

## Tiananmen Square closed to public

PEKING (AP) — Authorities closed Tiananmen Square to the public Saturday and held a children's carnival in an effort to head off commemorations of last year's army attack on student protesters.

Thousands of grammar-school children played games at brightly coloured booths on the balloon-festooned square. Some games involved manoeuvring remote-control tanks through mazes, and others involved shooting toy rifles at targets.

Paramilitary police guarded the square and kept out anyone without a ticket for the event.

Authorities are holding special events in the square through Monday as part of an effort to prevent protests or commemorations of last year's student-led demonstrations for democratic reform.

The army crushed the protests June 3-4 when it fought its way into the city through crowds of civilians supporting the students.

At Peking University, official dance parties were scheduled for

Hundreds — possibly thousands — of people were killed.

The students' headquarters was at Tiananmen Square, the symbolic heart of Peking. Its stone pavement still bears the scars of tank treads and fire from when the soldiers burned student tents, and the steps of its tall Monument to Revolutionary Martyrs are still broken at the edges from armoured vehicles.

Some underground activists said they would like to make commemorative gestures in the square Sunday or Monday, but that it would be too dangerous. Students talked about fasting or holding a candlelight vigil on a university campus or at another location, but it was not clear if authorities would permit either action.

On at least one Peking campus, teachers were assigned to make bed checks in student dormitories each night this weekend.

At Peking University, official dance parties were scheduled for

each weekend night.

Unusually large numbers of police and police vehicles were in central Peking late Friday night. Some police and soldiers were on Tiananmen Square. The streets looked normal during the day Saturday.

Authorities are planning a ceremony in the square Sunday to commemorate the 1840 Opium War against Britain, which official histories describe as an example of foreign imperialist aggression against China. The war was triggered by British trade in opium bought in India and sold in China, where it became a major social problem.

On Monday, June 4, 2,000 taxis were to gather in the square to practice safe driving.

Police have reported stepped-up arrests of vagrants and common criminals in Peking and Shanghai in the past week, apparently as part of the effort to keep order during the sensitive weekend.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, said rebel troop movements Friday prompted the U.S. decision to restrict movement of U.S. personnel.

Yarcia said that in addition to the civilian vigilantes, two companies of troops from the elite Philippine Constabulary Regional battalions already stationed in the city.

Communist guerrillas have fought for 21 years to establish a Marxist state and have pledged to continue attacking Americans until all U.S. troops leave the Philippines.

Eight Americans have died in politically motivated violence in the Philippines since April 1989.

Philippine intelligence sources,

## Reporter detained in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (Agencies)

— Indian troops detained an Indian journalist Saturday who was covering the separatist fighting in Kashmir for Western news organisations, witnesses said. Security officials denied knowing of his whereabouts.

Indian army soldiers came to the house of reporter Yusuf Jameel early Saturday and peacefully took him to an undisclosed location, said the witnesses, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Senior army and police officers in Srinagar, speaking on condition their names not be used, denied that Jameel was in their custody and said they had no information about his whereabouts.

Jameel has reported for the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) for about five years and for Reuters, the British news agency, for about two years. He also reported for Time magazine, which is based in New York and for the Telegraph, a major Indian daily based in Calcutta.

"Never has English Canada been presented with such modest demands," Bourassa said to Reuters in an interview on Friday. He said Quebec had whittled down its list from 22 demands to five.

"I am reasonably optimistic the accord will be ratified," he said. Referring to the recalcitrant premier, he said, "to refuse (to ratify it) would be to take a big risk with Canada's future."

The Indian Army Public Relations Office in Srinagar issued a statement denying the army was involved in any way.

India has discouraged foreign reporters from travelling to the area although the restrictions are strictly enforced.

In a last effort to resolve the crisis that has reawakened Quebec's separatist yearnings, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has summoned the 10 premiers to a meeting Sunday in Ottawa.

The Meech Lake Accord, which essentially shifts some federal powers to the provinces, was unanimously approved in 1987 but some provincial leaders elected since then have refused to ratify the pact.

As the June 23 ratification deadline approaches, the impasse

## Quebec premier optimistic, Canada to work out crisis

MONTREAL (R) — Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa has said he is optimistic that Canada's leaders will work out their bitter constitutional differences rather than risk the country's unity.

But Bourassa made it clear he was not prepared to make any concessions on the Meech Lake Accord, the constitutional amendment at the heart of the conflict that threatens to tear Canada apart.

The accord would give Quebec some of the powers it seeks over immigration and other policies to ensure the preservation of its French-speaking culture.

The premiers of the mainly English-speaking provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Manitoba have refused to approve it, saying the accord would hand Quebec too much power.

"Never has English Canada been presented with such modest demands," Bourassa said to Reuters in an interview on Friday. He said Quebec had whittled down its list from 22 demands to five.

"I am reasonably optimistic the accord will be ratified," he said. Referring to the recalcitrant premier, he said, "to refuse (to ratify it) would be to take a big risk with Canada's future."

He has had little light on what he plans to do if the accord fails. Bourassa, an economist with degrees from Harvard and Oxford, said a few months ago that Quebec might opt for a "supranational" relationship with the rest of Canada. He has not explained exactly what that means.

Political analysts say his primary objective has been to foster Quebec's economic growth.

Some political analysts believe he would aim for an association with English Canada along the lines of the European Community, which he studied during his years out of power before making a remarkable comeback in 1985.

Although he is vague about his own plans, he is precise in his criticism of the Parti Quebecois' platform to separate but continue to share the same currency with English Canada.

## Soviet summit coverage reflects turmoil at home

MOSCOW (R) — Pressing

domestic issues, from economic reform to mounting political opposition, have shaped Soviet media coverage of President Mikhail Gorbachev's summit talk in Washington.

Earlier in the week Soviet television dwelt at length on Gorbachev's remarks in Canada, where he blasted Yeltsin following his election as president of Russia.

Gorbachev suggested that Yeltsin, whom he sacked from the Communist Party politburo in 1988 for criticising the slow pace of reform, was playing "political games."

Gorbachev has also used the central media to comment on the state of the domestic economy — and its needs for radical overhaul — and to push his line that breakaway Lithuania is an internal political matter.

The Communist Party daily Pravda Saturday, echoing the Lithuanian theme, quoted a U.S. expert on Soviet-American relations as saying the Lithuanian question was an "uninvited guest" at the summit talks.

It also focused heavily on arms control agreements signed by the two leaders, giving Soviet readers few hints of the central importance of Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

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issue. India accuses Pakistan of

clamping strict controls on im-

portation and storage of chemi-

cals used to manufacture cocaine,

such as acetone, ether and hydro-

chloric acid.

The bomb interrupted the

swearing-in ceremony, exploding

just as Liberal Party Mayor Nic-

olas Curi was urging Cartagena

residents in his inaugural address

"to face up to violence and de-

fend the city at all costs."

Two people including a 12-

year-old boy were arrested min-

utes after the explosion, accor-

ding to police, who added that one

of the suspects had flown into

Cartagena Thursday from Medellin, hub of the nation's violent

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